

SOUTH AFRICA'S OWN PC AND PLAYSTATION GAMING MAGAZINE

## LAUNCH ISSUE

R 11.95

#### POREVIEWS :

TOCA Touring Car Champs, Congbow 2, Jack Nicklaus 5, Black Delillia, 2 much more.

#### Playstation Reviews :

Abe's Oddesee, Finel Fantasy VII, Grand Theft Auto, Riven, Skull Monkeys.

#### Hardware Hype :

Preview: Creative Voodoo 2 Smith's Formula I Steering Wheel Canopus Pure 3D.

#### Cuake a Competition :

Registration entry forms for SA's biggest Cuake 2 competition.

#### Clueless :

Total Annihilation strategized.
Plus Cheats, hints and tips.
I much more

### COMPETITION

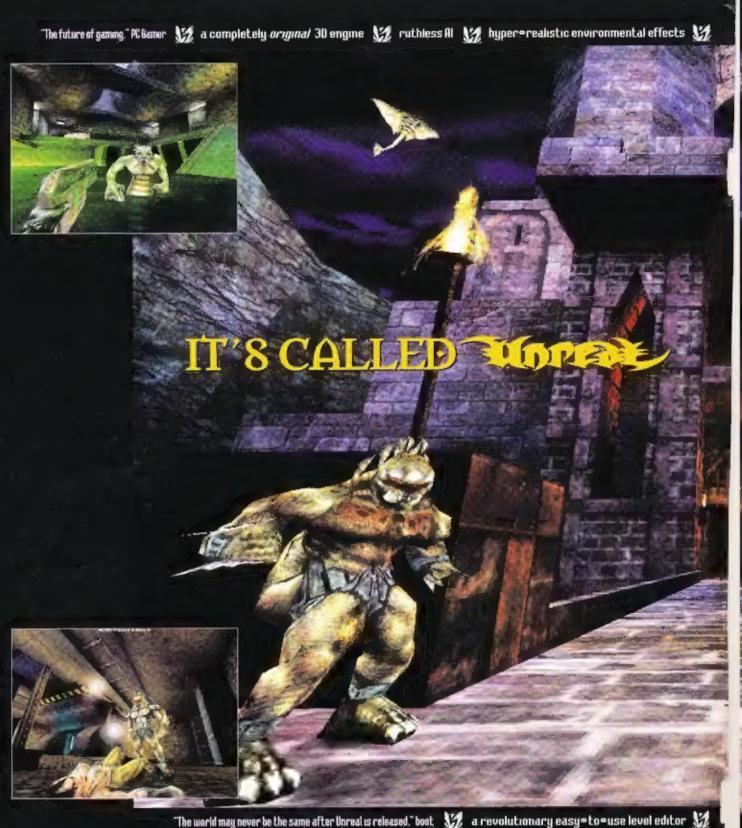
Win a Creative S/Blaster Awe 64

## **EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW**

Could this be the greatest racing simulator yet to grace our screens?
Check out the EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW inside.

GRAN TURISMO





http://www. woreat .com

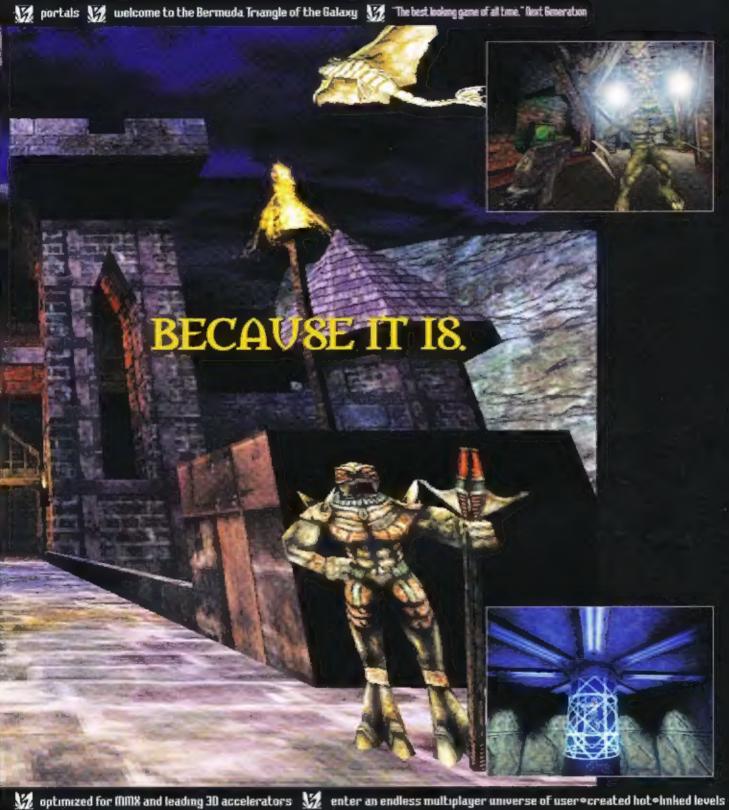


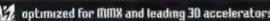






To reserve your copy of this game, visit your local retail store.













downloading is believing register for shareware now unreal.gtgames.com

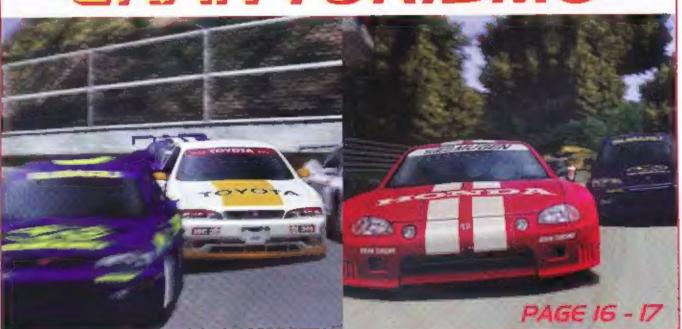




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## HARDWARE HYPE



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We are blessed with the best of both worlds in this issue by giving away 6 coveted Merit Awards and 2 extremely rare Excellence Awards. We pride ourselves in being totally objective in giving the best possible reviews and if a game receives an award it definitely deserves it. We understand how difficult it can be to afford games in today's economic recession. Therefore we are working hard to bring you an affordable magazine that will help you in your choice for the best gaming buys. Value for money is the motto behind New Age Gaming and we mean that from the review right down to your purchase. I hope you enjoy reading NAG and hope to get a response concerning your suggestions and opinions. We look forward to hearing from you, until then GAME AWAY.

The Ed



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EA Africa

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Multimedia

Multimedia Warehouse

Ster kinekor

Playstation

#### www.diablo2.org

With the success of Diablo and the Hellfire Add On, the news of Diablo 2 has reverberated throughout the world. There are a number of dedicated Diablo 2 sites but Diablo2.org is the site I profer. This site leaves no stone unturned and has updated information and downloads allable. Lenjoyed the breakdown of the new classes to be In Diablo 2 and recommend this site to all Diablo junkies.



#### www.stationI7.com

the STARCRAFT finternity have welcomed an oustanding site that has captured the strategy gamers eye. This site is packed with everything you want to know about Starcraft and is updated continually. Due to the completion of the Seta Testing there is an abundance of strategy guides and tips to get you started on the right track. If you are a Starcraft fan don't miss this one.



### A LOOK AT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GAMES DISTRIBUTORS WEB SITES.





www.ea.co.za www.pcmultimedia.co.za www.mmw.co.za www.playstation.co.za

South African have had a rough time in terms of supolving of games in the past. The sanctions curbed the Importing of quality products and created havor with the die-hard gamer. Since then we have been lucky to have a number of games distributors support the market. Due to this we are able to have a constant price level and timeous release dates putting South Africa on par with the rest of the world. Most gamers are aware of the distributors by now but what about the added benefit of their local web sites. If information is required about a certain product who better to ask than the guys who distribute it. Take advantage of the added benefit of the support and information available on these sites. The more we support our local distributors the better it gets for us as gamers. Check out these sites they can only get better with feedback from you.





- NEW AGE TAV!!N



### BITS & BYTES

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Top of the news this month is the Creative Labs Carnival to be held in Johannesburg at the Sandton City Fountain Square from the 22-26th of April,

During this period Creative Labs will be demonstrating their latest and greatest entertainment hardware:

The big news is the Quake 2 competition to be held during this event. The competion will be sponsored by Creative Labs, Mustek, Super Diamond, New Age Gaming. Software Connection and Datatec

Distribution:

Imagine a competition with 16-32 Pentium II 233 Mhz. machines, each with its very own 3D Blaster: Voodoo2 cards, All machines will have 2 monitors, one for the player and one for spectators..., no worrying about spectators crowding around you and cramping your style. On to what everyone wants to know, PRIZES,

First prize will be a Penlium II. 300 Mhz gamers dream machine; worth of R25 000.00, definally an-

opportunity to grab a machine that will keep all your games running for the next year or two:

Second & Third prizes will consist of Creative Labs bundles eg. for example a Dxr2 DVD Kit + AWE 64 + Couple of games. These prizes haven't been finalized at our time of printing but Creative assures us they will be worth

Besides all the Quake 2 competition prizes, Creative Labs

will be giving away spot prizes as well.

The competition will be open to everyone except to employees of the sponsors and their immediate family. (Dammit! that includes me.)

Everyone participating will have to pay a entry fee of R15. all money collected for entries will be donated to the Avril Elizabeth Home for Children.

Competitors will be able to pre-register using our entry

form on page 14. Online: registration forms will also be available at www.quake2.co.za thanks to CU for helping us in that respect. Entries will also be accepted during and up to the end of the first knockout round, so: people that don't have the internet or haven't bought this magazine will still be able to enter-

The Quake 2 competition will be structured around a Knockout basis until the Quarter finals. This means 16 players jump into a: Deatmatch and only the # top:

fraggers get to continue to the next round. The first knockout round will be on the 24th a Friday.

From the Quarter finals competitors will start going at each other on a 1-on-1 basis, winners going on to the next round until they reach the Final.

The Final will be a 1-on-1 best out of 3 match. The winner will walk away with that awesome machine worth R25,000.00;



Lots of draphics accelerator news this month. Everyone is jumping on the bandwagon and developing their own Voodoo 2 killers. Whether they are going to succeed remains to be seen.

First off Matrox is developing the MGA-G200 which will reportedly be available in late June '98. You can expect to see the card available here. about 1 month afterwards. The MGA-G200 will be an AGP 3D accelerator and 2D card combined. This scorcher is AGP 2x compliant and will offer almost twice the 2D performance of a Millenium II. Test on the 3D-side show

Forsaken. although still development the MGA-G200 comes close

to Voodoo 2

based cards

performance

APRIL 98

and will



definitely be something to look out for in the future, especially if you are PCI slot conscious.

Secondly nVidia made some noise about their



uncoming 3Daccelerator chip the TNT4 which should be in production by the 3rd Quarter of

1998. The TNT4 is reported to be the first single-chip to process two pixels per clock cycle (the Voodoo 2 uses two chips to achieve this) enabling true multi-texturing. TNT4 based cards will

feature up to 16 MB of frame buffer and use AGP 2x for texture storage. Makers of the Riva opted to use anisotropic filtering for the TNT4. That is like the next thing up from Tri-Linear filtering which the Voodoo 2 uses. For more Information check out www.nvidla.com.

Intel, yea you heard me

right Intel, is delving into the graphics market as well

these days with their 1740 chin. Scheduled for release in the 2nd Ouarter of this year is intel's own



graphics card called the Intel Express 3D. I almost cracked when they showed us a picture of the card. The first ever graphics card that I have seen with a fan and heatsink on it. Like most of the other cards the 3D Express will also be AGP 2x compliant. I have serious doubts about this card coming close to Voodgo 2 performance. Hopefully we can get a copy from Intel South Africa for testing and put my fears to rest.

Also due this year is the next generation PowerVR chip which will also feature anisotropic filtering.

With so many 3D-acclerators coming out this year it makes me wonder which 3D accelerator will be ray next card.

## Bits & BITS & BYTES

#### Tomb Raider Movie In The Works

Eidos has signed a deal with Paramount pictures to produce a Tomb Raider movie. Lawrence Gordon and Boyd Levin will produce the picture. They are best known for hits like 'Die Hard 2" and "Predator 2". The only real question remaining is: Who will play the role of Lara Croft, \* grin \*

#### Westwood Remakes Dune 2 The Granddaddy of RTS

Dune 2000, the remake of Dune 2 which is the granddaddy of all



modern real time strategy games, is

#### Microsoft Announce DirectX 6 Shipping Date



Microsoft annouced that DirectX 6 will be shipping in July '98. The new version will have support for the new Voodoo 2 chipset and will offer developers access to a host of texture manipulation routines for Direct3D. Microsoft Is also continuing development on DirectMusic which they hope to ship later this year with DirectX 6.x.

#### Sega Pulls The Saturn In America

Making a whopping \$309 million loss in America, Sega recently announced the discontinuation of the Sega Saturn in America. and you were wondering why we don't feature any Sega Saturn articles. Although we fall under the European division where the Saturn is still supported, you can hardly find a Sega Saturn in tores here in South Africa these tays: Now you can look furward to Sega's next generation machine dubbed "Katana".



#### Vampires and Babies in Gabriel Knight III

Sierra's is releasing Gabriel Knight III later this year. You will return as the American hero Gabriel in Blood of the Sacred, Blood of the Damned. This installment in the Gabriel Knight series will immerse you into a European environment on the trail of a Vampire who kidnans an aristocrat's Infant.



#### Thrustmaster To Enter Playstation Arena

Thrustmaster Inc. best known for their PC Joysticks will enter the Playstation hardware market. They will be producing controller products for the Playstation. first in line will be a racing



Wheel and Some immutative controllers. New Playstation owners will be able to get the same standard of quality products PC gamers have been using for years.

#### Editor • In • Chief Going To E3 The Biggest Gaming Expo In The World

Our Editor-in-Chief, Warren Steven, will be going to the £3 in Atlanta come May. So expect one lengthy article about the higgest gaming expo in the world in our july issue. This being hisfirst ever plane ride and first time out of good old South Africa he is nervous and giddy as a schooldboy at the same time. While there he will be chatting to some of the developers about sending us beta copies so we can preview the games in development. A lot of the distributors are also going to E3 and will try to arrange some interviews for us with the big boys in companies like Origin. (Assistant Editor - You better bring me some stuff back or there will be hell to pay ;-) ).









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### Sony To Bring Out New DVD+ROM

Sony annouced the first 5x DVD-ROM drive bundle. The DVD drive is fully backward compatible withall of current CD-ROM formats, reading them at a steady 32x speed. The bundle will include a REALmagic Thriller PCI MPEG 2decoder card, driver software, an audio cable as well as two DVD-ROM titles. Using ATAPI/LIDE the



DVD-ROM drive allows access times of 75ms for CD-ROM and 100ms for DVD.

### Records Tumble With Resident Evil 2

Resident Evil 2 sold 3 million copies in the first 6 weeks after its release claiming a new record. The game sold 2 million copies since its release on the 21st in Million the USA. In Japan where It is known as Blohazard 2 it

sold more than 1.9 million copies since it debut there on the 29th of January. Hamm.... and I thought the PC

market had huge sales figures.



#### Oscar Winner For Wing Commander

Peter Lamont, winner of an Academy Award for his art direction on Titanic, will join Chris Robert, who is directing, on the Wing Commander movie currently being produced in Luxemborg.



#### Sierra's Swat2 On Its Way

SWAT 2 the sequel to Sierra's strategy game SWAT is on its way. With an improved interface and RTS type

gameplay I hope
SWAT 2 will find
a bigger
audience than
SWAT did. The
game is
currently being
posted as SWAJ
officers at Sierra
to make certain
gameplay is as
realistic as

possible.



### Psygnosis Announces Global Domination

Psygnosis announced Global Domination on the 16th of March. This game will be available for the PC and Playstation by the end of the year. The game sounds very similar to BattleZone and Uprising, being a 3D strategy game combined with arcade style action. 'It's a game of strategy, speed and skill mixed with non-stop action; and it's real-time gameplay that offers decisive victory. It's you versus the computer in single player mode or you versus 15 other power hungry recruits over a network.' - press release

#### X•Men Coming To a Playstation Near You



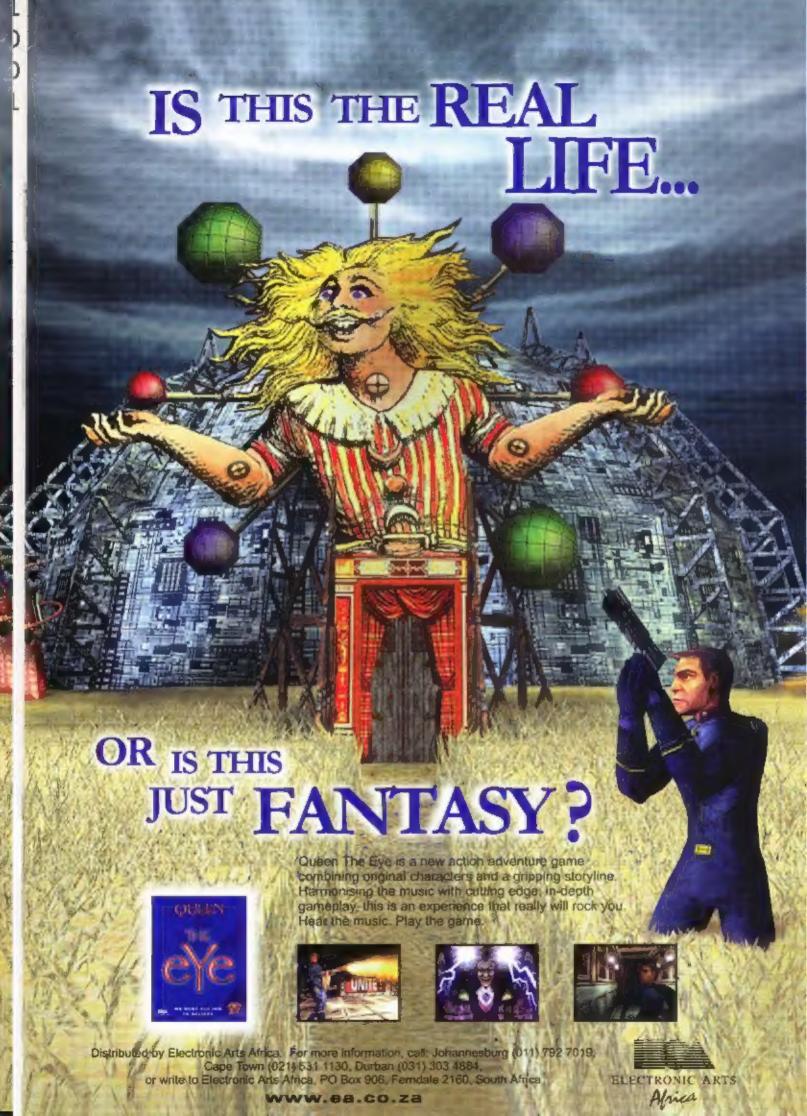
Coming soon to the Playstation is Xmen; Children Of The Atom. Already available for the PC, this 3D shooter will be reckned by has startion owners tooking for action up close and personal. This game features all your favourite characters from the Comic series.

#### Raven Software Plans For Heretic 2

Raven Software have annouced plans to revive Heretic, the predecesor of Hexen, and separate its story line from the Hexen series. The game will use the Quake II engine and will feature a third person perspective view. It looks tike the game will feature Tomb Raider style gamplay such as climbing up ledges and ropes, and leaping across ledges. Heretic II will be shown for the first time at E3.



I HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED THE
FIRST EDITION OF BITS & BYTES.
WE HOPE TO HEAR YOUR OPINIONS
AND SUGGESTIONS ABOUT HOW TO
IMPROVE THIS SECTION. IF YOU
HAVE ANY COMMENTS PLEASE E-MAIL
ME AT BBONAG.CO.ZA
LEONARD DIAMOND - ASSISTANT EDITOR





PO Box 2749 Alberton 1449

Please write to us at the address on the envelope letting us know what your hypes and gripes are about the magazine and other related gaming topics. With constant feedback from you we can bring out a quality magazine

worthy of the S.A. gaming public. All letters will be read with the best of the crop being published in the corresponding monthly issue. This is your opportunity to let your feelings out about those subjects that have been plagueing you, which seem to be left unheard. Put pen to paper and fingers to keyboard and send that damn mall.

#### The Letter of the Month will receive the Game of the Month as a prize.

Please include your name and postal address with your letter so we can forward your prize should you win. Any winners without the above shall forfeit the prize and the Editor's cupboard will collect another game. The prize cannot be changed for cash or any other product. The Editor's decision is final and that's that,

This is New Age Gaming's preliminary Top Tens put together by the staff and reviewers. Our main objective is to have you the public send us your Top Ten's in order to let us

collate the best possible South African charts. The more feedback we receive the better we can identify with South African gaming trends. Please send your Top Ten's to: Postal:

Top Ten PO Box 2749 Alberton, 1449. €-Mail: topten@nag.co.za

onth TM = Total Months on chart

Pest ISSI bett	LM = Position Last M			
The Marie State	RC			
	NAME -	LM	TM	
	1. Simbo 2	1	1	
	2. Total Annihitation	2	2	
	3. Wing Commander 5	3	3	
THE PROPERTY OF	4. TOCA Youring Car	4	4	
	5. Tomb Raider 2	5	5	
	6. Mankey Island 3	6	6	
	7. Longbow 2	7	1	
	8. FIFA 98: RIWC	8	8	
	9. Blade Runner	9	9	
GAMES	10. Jack Nicklaus 5	10	10	

	NAME	LM	TM
1.	Final Fantasy 7	111	1
2.	Abe's Oddysee	2	2
3.	Tomb Raider 2	3	3
ā.	Crash Bandlcoot 2	4	4
Ŋ.,	FIFA 98: BIWC	5	5
6.	Ace Combat 2	6	6
7.	Formula 197	1	7
8.	Soullinde	8	8
Ŋ.	Grand Theft Auto	9	9
10.	And the second	10.	10



## COMPETITION

## WINWIN





## Sound Blaster Awe 64 Value

All you have to do to win this magnificent prize from Creative and New Age Gaming is to answer 2 easy questions.

- 1) What is the trame rate of the Creative 3D Blaster Voodoo 2 reference board during the Quake 2 Timedemo (Tweaked)?
- 2) What sizes RAM do the Creative 3D Blaster Voodoo 2 get released in?

Send your answer on a postcard to Creative/NAG Competition, PO Box 2749, Alberton, 1449 or E-Mail the answer to comp@nag.co.za

The Editor's decision is final Staff members of New Age Gaming and Creative Labs, along with their families, are prohibited from entering

### Same same same same same

CREATIVE

Creative will be demonstrating their Hottest Upgrade for your Coolest PC, New Multimedia PC -kits, PC-DVD Encore DxR2 Drive, 3D Blaster Voodoo2, Graphics Blaster Exxtreme, Sound Blaster PCI 64: Cambridge Speaker Range and WebCam2 Internet Camera, amongst others! Presentations will be taking place during the day with lots of spot prizes, and lots of fun for everyonet

Come and visit the Creative Carnival at Sandton City's Fountain Court from 22-26 April, 9am-5pm, Wednesday to Saturday, 9am-2pm Sunday.

COMPLETE THIS FORM FOR PRE-REGISTRATION AND RULES FOR THE OZRAC" OR FOR FURTHER INFO ON THE "DRESS UP" COMPETITION AND THE GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON!

Company Name		Position	
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Telephone	Fax	Ę-m.	311
Postal Address			
Rate your Opaka Experience	Amstore	Medium	Professional
hame of your "CLAN" (it any)			
Please send the moto informa	tion on the "Over	e up like Quake, "Ca	artipolition
It is important for you to give about the two competitions	us on E-mail so H you do not he	idress II you wish in o yo an E-mail address.	ecalvo pli relevent in please supply a lax i

Quake 2 Round Robin

This competition will take place at the Creative Carnival A R15 entry fee will be charged and donated in full to the Avril Elizabeth Home for Children.

There will be 3 prizes. the first being worth

P2 300 PC System

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR

THE SPONSORS HOSTING SA's PREHIER QUAKE 2 ROUND ROBIN KNOCKOUT COMPETITION

CHEATIVE





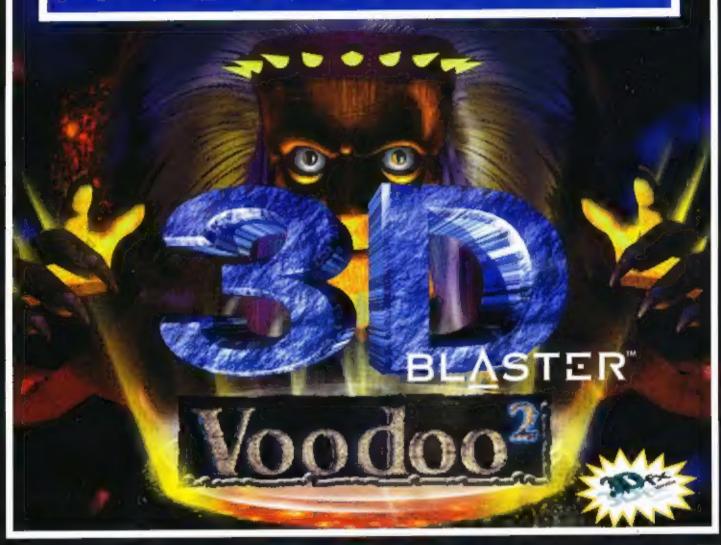
FURTHER DETAILS !!



Visit these cool Websites for more information: www.slime.co.za ... quake2.co.za ... screwloose.co.za ... sdc.co.za ... gamecity.co.za ... SLIME

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50 billion operations per second. 3 million triangles per second. Up to 12MB of ultra-fast, single-cycle DRAM. Two independent, on-board texture processors for single-pass trilinear filtering. Full triangleset-up processing, LOD MIP-mapping. Texture compositing, morphing and other complex effects: High-precision Z-buffering. True perspective correction with sub-pixel and sub-texel accuracy. As much as 3 times the performance of the previous generation of Voodoo-based accelerators.



Put some magic in your PC. Get it now at your favourite retailer.

Please fax this to (011) 802-6376	should you require further information on the 3D Blaster Voodon2.	(New Age Coming)	(Mad-e Danigh 7801)
Company Name			
Name	Surname:		
Telephone:	Fax:	E-mail:	
Postal Address:		C	ode:
Would you be interested in getting in	formation about other CREATIVE products? Yes No		
	Crosilve Lates Africa PO Bax 76761 Wendymend 2144 - E-mail info@creathedaba.co.za	Creative, the Creative topo.	and Sound Blasser 418 mgm

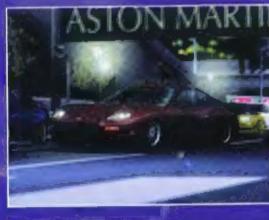
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ered transcentis in the USA and serious other countries. when brane or proposit names is led are histographs or top severt namenarys and are property of their respective hold

## Preview Under Construction

broughout the existence of man there has been a craving for speed and more speed. The never-ending search for the ultimate motor vehicle to harl you closer to sound barrier. I doubt I've found the vehicle but Sony International and Ster-Kinekor Interactive have come close to digitizing it.



The Playstation and PC for that matter have been inundated with repetitive and mediocre racing games. We buy the games in the hope of better graphics and

realism but in truth this genre of game lacks depth. Racing Sims with the ability to keep us entertained are few and far between with the Formula 1 and Indy productions holding up the: deck. Is there any light for us down this lonely pit lane?

Hold on to your panties I think we've hit the throttle, Gran Turismo has hit me with a socket wrench (there is something else I would like to hit you with :Ed), unleashing the old feelings of being pulled over by The cops in Test Drive and receiving the fastest lap in Indy Car Racing Without sounding to enthusiastic, this



otential caffeine

The first thing I

noticed was the amount of options and vehicles you have at your disposal. Sony have managed to secure ten manufacturers which are Toyota, Honda (the best :Ed), Chrysler, TVR. Aston Martin, Chevrolet, Mazda, Nissan, Mitsubishi, and Hyundai. This

outs an astounding 40 different sports cars at your finger tips, each with computer assisted

with the formidable task of choosing my vehicle I

> involved. Realizing this Bela copy is from Japan 1 eventually worked out I was working in Yen Light and Sa currency), even

probably Dollars.

There isn't much in the game that doesn't involve the use of money.

unreliable. The garage options are plentiful covering all facets of the

vehicle, all there to improve the performance and handling of your car. Brakes, tyres, suspension, engine, transmission, exhausts, turbo's, colour and body kils are performance boosting and costly upgrades. You however are not given certain:

PACING SIMULATION

Developer Sony Computer Entertainment

Luckily you start with a considerable

amount of it due to the costs of the

is the use of second hand vehicles

which are less expensive but more

newer vehicles. An interesting addition

INTERACTIVE

SA Distributor

upgrades until you have ventured onto the track and burnt some rubber. Before heading out to race you are invited to test

the performance of your vehicle in The Machine Test, a welcome addition once you get into the upgrading department. You are able to Judge by the 400m, 800m and 1000m time test what speeds and handling differences there are between all the vehicles and upgrades. It must be said that each vehicle comes with a full breakdown of specs and performance figures: according to the manufacturers and its interesting to see how accurate: they are in the Machine Test:



steering and braking options for beginners. Once coming up

noticed the costs

though with all those noughts I would have preferred Rands. The Ster Kinekor guys have assured me that the final product will work with a more knowledgeable currency, most

## Gran Turismo

Nothing special has come out of the different views but then the inside and third person option are pretty much standard. A fully detailed screen keeps you updated on your progress. at all times and impressed me with its ability not to clutter up the TV screen. The graphics are clear and precise with no texture splitting occurring, which is very impressive with this beta copy. The screen moves along rapidly at 30. fps during daytime races and 50+ fps during night races. The difference due to the extra processing power needed

average track with a Honda. Prelude is a nightmare without suspension and tyre: adjustments. The vehicle screeches and sways as the suspension stutters under the pressure of the comering. The car lurches as each gear is: passed and oversteer is: common place behind an average car. The racing is tight and intense depending on your vehicle's ability. A money. bonus is given for the top



Previous Under Construction

Sony Computer Entertainment Europe announced that it

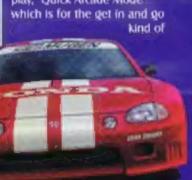


three spots in each race and or lan records giving the player extra incentive to perform. You never know when you will need that suspension. fowered:

There are two modes of play, 'Quick Arcade Mode'.

to update each screen with more Intense graphics during day and less at night. Excellent lighting effects fift the screen continuously with great attention given to smaller detail. The brake lights lighten to warn you of dangers ahead and the metallic paint reflects in the sunlight. The effects are wonderful and are said to improve with the final release.

Once in the hot seat you discover. that every make and model has a feel of its own. Trying to whip around an



different championships and eleven different tracks. The objective is to have upgraded your vehicle sufficiently to compete in this arena. It must be said that even though you

have a quicker and more controllable vehicle you have to race increased Alof the other drivers, which is: deceptively intelligent at his level.

Senna's of this world a run for their

The Gran Turismo is roughly the

supreme test of driving skills with 10

A noticeable exclusion of vehicle and object damage is apparent but is dithered by the intense depth of GT: This minor hiccup can only be put down to CD space and I'm sure would have been included if permitted, A: special mention must be said of the Replay Mode and its inspiring playbacks that seem considerably enhanced graphically to the normal racing mode. You would be easily fooled into believing you were watching a video of the real deal. Multiplayer Modes support 1 - 2

Gran Turismo

player, and then the 'Gran Turismo Mode", which is the ultimate test of

driving skills. As with any high end racing you have to earn vour entry into the Gran: Turismo, in this case it's getting your license. Not any average: license because it consists of a 'B' and two 'A' grade license's. each with a different number of stages. Unfortunately I was only able to reach the 'B' grade, which has seven stages, but I was accepted into the Gran Turismo. These arei extremely challenging stages and will give even the Ayrton

player capabilities being commonplace amongst this genre of game. More: human racers would have scaled new heights but unfortunately are notsupported. Support for analog and digital peripherals is excellent and that analog controller or steering wheel you have been eyeing out will help enhance the realism:

I am confident that GT is going to. revolutionize the racing sim market on all platforms: I can only give my final/ assessment once I have the finalproduct but believe you me I will be first in the queue. I only wish it were June already.





## Preview Under Construction

ust over the gaming horizon is a game called Unreal from Epic Megagames due for release in June ( We hope : Ed). If there is currently any game in development that could oust Quake as king of the hill it would be Unreal.

Unreal is based on the Unreal engine, a totally new 3D engine from fpic which will be the first 3D engine to actually use Intel's MMX instruction set. This will give gamers with MMX machines a decent frame rate without 3D accelerators. Riding on the forefront of current technology the Unreal engine will also feature native support for all commercial 3D accelerators using 3Dfs and PowerVR chipsels.

By not making use of existing engines and coding their own. Epic will be able to add any special effects deemed necessary to enhance gameplay. So far no one except Epic knows the full potential of the Unreal engine since they have kept most of its features a mystery and only given a glimpse of some special effects. In the demo tape we received we saw dynamic lighting, lens flares, realistic fire, force fields, steam and lava, but you can be certain there will be even more in the final product.

I have to say that the monster animation is awe-inspiring due to realistic movement and their reactions to the current situation not to mention that Steve Polge of Reaperbol fame is working on the monster's Al-

If you're sick and tired of shotguns and tocket launchers popping up in all 3D shooters. Unreal will come as a welcome relief featuring unique sci-fi weapons. If only to mention one, the





Razorjack shoots out circular saw blades, which can be controlled after firing i.e. move them around corners and do 360s in the air. From the sounds of it this could possibly become my favorite weapon in deathmatches.

First Person Shooter

Pentiam 166 MMH 32 MB RAM PCI SVGA CDram 150 MB Est. (L/D space Win 95 or Win NT TCP:1P Network

Epic MegaGames

GT Interactive

Multimedia Warehouse Tel: (Oll) 3/5-(000

www.unreal.com

UnrealEditor, which will ship with a blg manual and extra utilities. Epic promises that UnrealEditor

will be easy to use for both beginners and pro's alike. Combine the editor with UnrealScript, a scripting language with VC++ style programming, and Unreal could be the

biggest breakthrough for mod makers since Quake C. With UnrealScript you have direct acces to character attributes and can write your own script for things like moving brushes (e.g. trains and the like), if it is truly as easy to use as Epic suggest even I might find some time to write a mod and produce a couple of levels, for more information on Unreal please check out the games site at http://www.unreal.com.

All we can do know is wall for the release of Unical when you can expect one lengthy review of what will probably be this years best 3D shooter.

ISSUE I



If there is currently any game in development that could oust Quake as king of the hill it would be Unreal.





ion Storm was so impressed with the Unreal engine that they recently licensed it for Daikatana II.

The editor that will be included as a unsupported product with Unreal has to be the feature I am most looking forward to. No more half-baked editors that we have seen in past 3D shooters like the

build engine in Duke Nukem. Now we have a full-blown program the equivalent of a R1000.00 CAD product. The Unreall ditor will use brushes to build levels like in Quake but instead of adding brushes you will be subtracting them from one huge brush to create your level. Gone are the days of hunting for leaks in custom levels. Shortly after Unreal's release Epit plans to release a fully supported version of the

NEW AGE

Beyond commitment. Bayond still. Separal reptured sinew and turn (under Beyond min sharper than scalpule and hearts of each, swapped and splintered. Beyond half time timel-haulings and crushed egos.

### **Beyond belief**

FIEA-Road to World Cop 98. The enly goal is to qualify.



















Distributed by Electronic Arts Africa. For more information call: Johannesburg (011) 792-7019, Cape Town (021) 531-1130. Durban (031) 3034884, or write to Electronic Arts Africa, PO Box 906, Femdale 2160, South Africa,

www.ea.co.za

1991 Cepturie Arts EASPORTS (se EASPORTS) up 18 mm to great on the part on Sentance Arts are represented by the control of the

Sound effects and scenery were

unconsincing to say the least, with for-

quality games out in the market it seemed

as if we were back in the early 90's. Certain

features that caught my eye were the water

REVIEWS Under THE

PC's ability to simulate. Ball flight and control are average with a large degree of shot selections available, AG2 seems to be missing that punch that normally grafts the gamer and keeps him up to all hours of the

answereth the textures.

Even though 4G2 comes with eight different courses, all of championship

the so-called superb sound effects had

## Sports Simulation Golf (cont)



REVIEWS Under FIRE

#### Sports Sim (Gulf)

Min Required

Projuju 95 Mhz
n Mh KAM
n mg VGA
A filmoin
195 Mh lighti-drive space

Win 95 Illinocta Sci.

Pendulus Jah MMX 12 ma MAM 2 mg VGA 4 a finoin 145 mb haud-drive space Win 95 DirectX 5:

Recommended

Developer Accolade

Publisher Electronic Arts

EA Africa Tel: (OII) 792-7019 R 299.00

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noming off a dismal round of golf up the weekend. It was a joy to be able to geto work on Accolade's Jack Nicklaus 5 If cenainly made a change from mudding it through the fairways and hadding through the rough

This being Jack Nicklaus's Ofth attempt, and creating little Impression with its previous versions, had me doubling



Tough Par 3 creates a challenging shot

emidence in all its departments, set it be said that impressing me can be difficult because of my close relationship with Jinks LS 98. It is the closest representation of the soort in a dame - now finally have two suchoffes with this distinction.

Pitting two of the latest golf games against each other is the best way to judge which is: worth our hard earned money. Was there actually any contest?

> Take in mind that JNS is mostly computer imagery, with resolutions being icached of 2600 x 1200 if hardware allows. If creares some awesome scenery Graphically (N5 takes my number one spot under the golfing. banner. With golder animations swings you couldn buy I'm sure you could probably buy the game as a featiling tool. the normal graphical problems are encountered with certain areas in the game. Such as the walking on water effect. that seems to plague most of the golling simulations. Ewonder where somebody will pick up on his and correct it. This bring minor aversights to the true glory or this graphic engine which stands out and says

onking at the internal workings of N5 made me. aware that rack Steaming nimself die some intensework on his product lack is a lover of nature and a perfectionist of note licining the player with sounds of some of the strangesi creatures can only

he his doing. You will hear sounds from the file isthmated Green Warbler to the cry of the Ruddy furnishing fewnersing you to a world that only the real golfer can explain. Being close to nature seems to bring but the calm and serene side of man and INS simulates this incredibly well

Realism plays an important role of the impression of the game and INS hits the spot. With correct ball flight and reaction to surfaces you have a clear understanding of what type of shot to play. Club selection comes with graphical changes which look and play like the iron or wood selected, the golfer swings with precision and takes

to right pattern of the swing. There have been a few mouse swings that have come and gone such as Sterra's Ps doll which didn't take off too well-Sometow the Mousemeter found a place in my game because of its ease of use allows you a lot more control on have power drives, the relate creating easier approaches to the greens, I have changed my dub pattern by mindue no the Mousemeter to the include and then changing back to the 3 cites for approaching and putting, it has cer ainly shaved shots off my score and could wark or you ton.

manual morese sysing that simulates the left

CDS's Gary McCord adds his sperior brand of commentary of INS and mutates most of the time with his one liners. An esample being thit the brakes, bit a wall, bit



Lining up the drive on a narrow fairway.

my fat caddle, on an overhit putt, could certainly citiate anxiety especially if it was an important out). Nevertheless It's humorous and well timed, as is the spontaneous applause from the gallery for a good shot

there are multiple camera angles and landing shirts. Unfortunately the TV style. landing carriera are only available for damers with 20MB ram or more, taking the hardware regulæments further into

rectal coming from this updated com-milh JN4 being released not so-long ago, it would take the pild divor in the fairway as well as the sand appash from that difficult hunker shot special mention must be said of the flag inacinas the Bear Imprint on II to represent the Jack Nicklaus logo, which moves in the whot to give an understanding of the ciking hexold to create: tand out golf game. ome closer than mo. The control interface is the standard lick and 2 click choices as well as a ver-niultive Mousemeter. The Mousemeter is o perfecting a game

inchessness recommend you go out and go the earth IAM because this feature helps create thi Multiplayer capabilities or available and work well

FINEW AGE CAMINE

ISSUE I

Accounts is the excission of internet play, which is not like the and Links to the excission of internet play, which is not like the and Links to the excission of internet burnaments that are sported in statute 4 will take plus a water to calculate within the result forms of the forms of the courses and the courses and the courses are farmed courses and the courses are some of justs a provided the courses included to experte accuracy. With hundreds of courses and take from plus are some of justs and only on passes.

In course has again acted the Course Designer and the Co, which gives just an edge over most of the imperiors and only on packaged on its own. Check out the Challengier course on the CD that is the culmination of the lost its fantace backer made by garners with the Pol designer, in one the that power of the just and one particularly while golding game. All in all justs is a quality product that I recommend to all you are gold players and games.

www.accolade.com

#### Sports Sim (Golf) •

Min Required

Pentules 165 M/M/X L. Mis leads 2 mg 1.5 4 % Oldon 230 mm familiative spece way 45 Mister EX 5 1000, Princip Mis

Recommended

Developer Gremlin Interactive

Publisher Gremlin Interactive

RRP

Multimedia Warehouse Tel: (Ott) 3/5-(OOO R 299.00

International Demo Download No download sites available 5.A Demo Downtoad No download sites available

remlin has been doing exceptionally well with their Actua range of sports mes. Their superior knowledge of motion capture and animation made Actua Soccer 2 top of its class. So I eaderly opened the Actua Golf 2 package with the prealest of interest.

With golfing games being a really tough market It was necessary for a too quality. product to be introduced. This certainly wasn't the case with Actua Golf 2. Having played the original Actua Golf on the Playstation was expecting greater things

## actua) for the PC Gremko it seems

M End PL Newton

apped for the more areade leef. than the simulation approach Gremin has taken the

appear of running the 3DDs format and hasn't impressed draphically. I can do so far as to say they laifed misetable. Somehow-IDEA doesn't work with golf games and if it is to create an impression in the market it. must thee support much higher resolutions than 640 x 480. Even without the 3D card f. had problems finding any good things about the graphics, except the motion capture on the animations, fserything about the look and feel is blocks and alignment problems

Trust me to forget my umbrefla in weather like this

status, the buck stops there. Soannouncements of extra courses have been made leaving me with no confidence in future developments for this version. If must be said that the recreations of the courses air hardly up to scratch but do the trick for arcade style play

## Sports Simulation Actua Golf (cont)



Linkng up the drive on a narrow fairway.

some promise until the common about sianed rading as Repellion and misprayora-fator was my firs expression. At high it, coll iones if index deep were close to an eat cor a fallers

An interesting larger is the use of these if the sounds on golling was in the artisal. paine. All the great got is are available. Such is the Is Greg Surman New Price and even figure symmetric But not spear jugos spiret et nos hars Mark McNath step a proje symprecisine incommits and this have the aid, come or get

Michigan south all in amora ingles are some 14 state carrier s one half caneta's to be court this goes help viesto the IV shift. impression and it parts and screds. intelligently. The mass aseful of the camona's helog the need all subjets helps a hoosing the correct sout selection Of sciencand almost are direct copies or tax of Chair with the arrow the technique schschins.

The most importancie a re-of-ary golfgame will always be the play-pillty and Aud. seemed destined for the back seal once again. An example of the case of pkiving

progression you follow in enter into the Prothis dame ranks, for finglings on amaticul golfer with a extended as specifiab or 28 for a body who coesa t Suppres File understand what a handwap is 0 s he simulate and amount of a shots you get inner he hetter players and Prick Alequalizer in forms or fully and finally greather have taken soorts in the advantage of new most people in one their would, are golf of areers Now before you ar jule the en 24 under Plats in the big money ioniney's you have to par and 2 play in the limate of ranks and you playing shot victory off a scratch handk ap. Once you have to any Just reached as milestone you will be given tho status and the allowed are the Greenite Pretuur aiment out his addition to he got be meetice that 1 asped all

danne does add extra mallenges especiably for single play in the nesand we should see other games allowing up there has beels Some come probable to lines he with AG2 making me as under how quality developers the grounds could go sauscottes in time Not seen they about his gone is had but it's truly difficult to find anything good about it. Lets just say that with the availability of higher quality golfing games. this woulder be in on at shopping be

those great shots and a put ing mechanism that is laughable. Oropping a 60ft putt is no problem for lagie that tacks up on your Some of the better features that Greenlin has produced are the multiplayer functions

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easy and

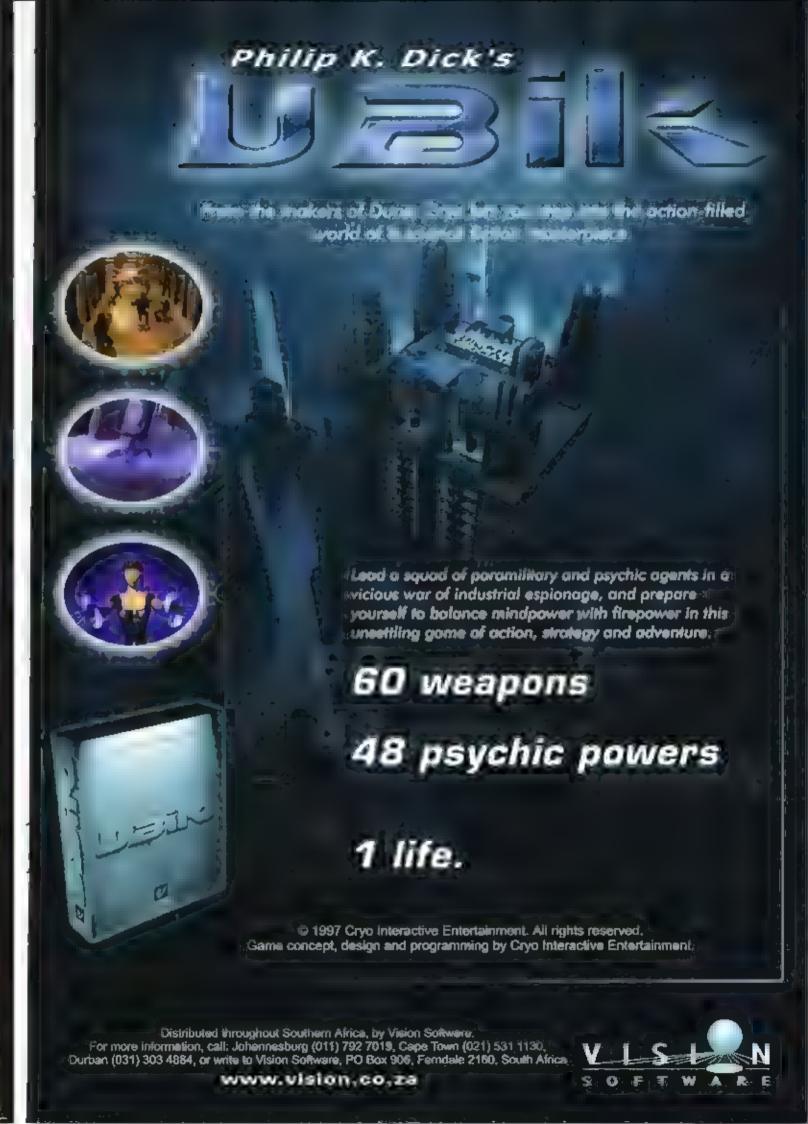
and the pracact detang range which the 1874 or \$11.420 other 5 As swell as the multiple swing mechanisms is unincludes the locks Art a Swing three Listers of Opening and an combut Nota sac voter int acsimplying the vising by the his levane to remains montain at the he advanted to Bullet an Isla

With cae respect a Greenlist something has be sulti about the interesting



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the Empire, your

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rucasArts brings us Balance. of Power, an action packed add-on for X-Wing 🚾 va Tie Fighter. So get mui pur original XVT from the bras bracdeus erll to me idy'in be submensed rich Star Wars ain, X-Wing VS III

but macks some senous

celeration-cards county tous natch for AVE that the pri tin 1997. Theversion is a life ut, LucasArts dicirit add special Meet like arnohe. tens llares organicle then Prophecy had I down nto the multiplayer

-LucinArts added 10 new musion and 2 new call pulgits Mram sector of space is it the story takes place and of the two campaigns yo play. As the Rebels w to convince the Alma



enver at 1900s, with a total length of 4 kilometers: It takes in for of skill and patience to take this below out. The greatest feature of Balanco of Power Is N's II

multiplayer capabilities, New ) phyers can join forces arith side by side through as campaign. This feature





#### Add On Jedi Knight HER RESERVED Kinghés singe projec

Lucias Arts Em

LucasArts Ent

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### JTAR, WARE MED BAY GREE

shipet while in the early missions, most of MotS center around Mara Jade as sise help the reliefs and becomes\_

early the court

hopier games; and

पंजनहां अपने की की पिन पेट

now with Mysteries Of

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SALS YOUR AND THE in jed Knight, lade

Kalam makes a retilin.

ade: Although you can

olav as Kyle Katartı lick il

with his sound Work

the fill places that

What weapons and. which force powers you start with in multiplayer is decided. By which class you play. Difference in this comment and

pendential liperior in the control of the control o

her than the ments is an extellent and well worth the ney spent on it, especial Stor Wars lan.





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Lansian.



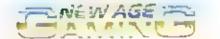




WE BUILD SIMS BY THE BOOK".



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The culmination of 3Dfx graphics and Janes's detail and design produces the ultimate chopper flight simulator

onabow 2 is the sequel to Longbow, which work "Simulation of the...

amai same gaming publication that Whether

year" from Longbow 2 will be ass successful only time: will tell, but it's got my

game also features two newhelicopters for your flight and illing enjoyment, the Klowa a scoup helicopter, and the Blackhawk which is a μillity/troop transport. ~ As we have come to expect from

anes, a comprehensive manual is,

## LONGBOW2

vote, Sponsored by James and developed by Skunkworks, it is taking helicopter simulations to the next

to the uninitiated the Longbow



Return of the familiar interface from the original Languages

series is a simulation of the Americans Apache Longbow AH-64D. The Longbow is arguably the best and most advanced combat helicopter in the world, being at its best when performing as a tank killer. Andy Hollis and his team at Skunkworks havegone through painstaking research to ensure a simulation that operates astrue to life as current technology will, allow. The developers used actual -Longoow pilots to test and comment

Longbow 2 has a myriad of new and improved features, I am happy to say they implemented multiplayer canabilities and added a couple of new twists to the experience. The

APRIL 98

included with the game, it covers ally the fundamentals and dynamics of. helicopier flight and then some Although reading the market (set)

> recommend it to new comers, Players of Longbow will find and tamiliar interface and will only have to skint through the manual, as most of, the keyboard command through all the basics of the flight and combat systems, with your Instructor yelling Instructions and glytog short explanations to you

necessary I would highly

The introduction animation for Longbow 2 features with

one of my highlights fr the game. Chopperscruising around and wrecking havoc on the batilefield always get me in the mood for kicking: some butt. Only thing that was disappointing about the intro is the low resolution. Hopefully game developers will start including a higher · · · · · · · resolution introduction for the ceaple with high-end

Once in the cockpit.

## 

Min Required | Recommended

DIS Swind & Wideo

Developer Skunkworks (Janes)

Publisher Electronic Arts

Supplier

EA Africa Tal: (Oll, 292-7019 R 299.00

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and cruising around the landscape, the feature that impressed me most was the aggelerated graphics. For offers a smooth frame rate and excellent special effect to boot

from realistic smoke trails. dynamic lighting, to tens flares. If found myself mostly flying at night, if only to watch the tens flares that missiles and rockets produce as they come zooming out from the side of the helicopter. Another eye cardy, feature I was amazed at was the smoke (rails, Realistic smoke trails) marks your rocket as it goes flying through the air. I could even see my Hellfire missile make its final run on a ank 5 miles away just by watching the moke trail. No more firing a missile and wondering where the hell it went For those of you that absolutely have: To see the kill up close, a function key is there to show you the action from a



Han anybody som my nightvision glasses (eopsi : Ed).

## Longbow 2

your missile's point of view. Dynamic's lighting really adds a new element to: the game in realism. Watching your. guns light up the belty of your chopper as it sixeds tanks to pieces and missiles light up the guilt slove YOM QUANTIES STREET, BY SUPPORT REST

with graphics as far as landscape isconcerned. No rocks or trees, the landscape is completely featureless. "Dammit I want trees!" Although there was some discussion of putting trees. into Longbow 2, It seems to have: fallen by the wayside, hopefully it will be in the next release. ----

'A lot of works has gone into sound effects for Longbow 2. From gume firing to helicopters crashing into the ground, each and every one of them sounds realistic. One feature T especially liked in the sound department was the In-Dight radio. updates from your wingman and other pilots in your unit. Even ground units sent in a couple of messages. Once they spot the enemy of enemy installation they inform you of its gold position on the map, making avoiding



Multiple views available institutes the object views.

### REVIEWS Under Pite

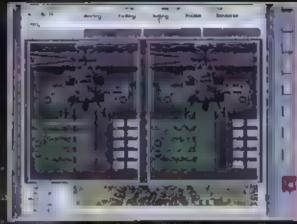
and finding enemy units that much easier. Even your co-pilot keeps you informed of the combatsituation around you, and tells you when he spots postile units. I had a ouple of raised evelopers from people around me as my co-pilot yelled, "SHIT!"

WERE HITT Longbow 2 caters for adventitious and hard-core players, featuring a casualt and expert flight models The expert flight work implates all of the

helicopters controls and can take a ireat deal of time to master. I usually, found myself crashing into the ground more often than not, for playing in this mode I would highly recommend a throttle control and some judden. edals. Leventually started playing if asual mode, what a lov. Any player can have full control of their helicopte in half an hour, doing the most advanced maneuvers possible to ge an edge on opponents. The Right model is highly configurable, and

> advanced players can set up a custom configuration to find a balance between asual and expert play.

feature in Longbow 2 is the dynamic campaign. generator. This means there is no set amount of missions in a campaign. The generator will create new missions based on? your past success, available targets and the current situation of the conflict. Additionally each mission has four sub-



inissions. By default you are assigned the first but can choose any of the four, while the others are assigned to like rest of your unit. Now die-hard campaigners like me can play to their hearts content.

As If this isn't enough, Longbow 2 has multiplayer capabilities, featuring support for IPX, W.P/IP, serial, andmodern games, A couple of pilot wannabe's can play either in 🦠 deathmaich or campaign mode. Cooperative play in campaign mode is incredible. This is the first flight sim have seen where two players can cooperatively fly one helicopter. Orie... player as the pilot the other as a copilot/gunner. Talk about versalility in imultiplayer. Imagine the possibilities in an 8-player game. Solo flight to always an option if everyone wants their own killing machine. --

I would highly recommend: Longbow 2 to the serious flight simi enthusiast. The game is sure to be an winner, and with the new multiplayer capabilities, it will keep youentertained for hours on end-



#### RACING SIMULATION

Min Required

Recommended

Pendajin 166 MMX 12 MN BAM 12 mp VAA 6 % CHops 10% Card 150 MB hard-drive space Win 95 ang vish 4 A COroni 35 Mp bard-drive apace Win 04

Developer Codemasters

Publisher Codemasters

RRP

Multimedia Warehouse Tel: (Oll) 315-1000 R 299.00

An excellent attempt at reproducing the -

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wouldn't be wrong in saying that it's

been a dream of every person to sit

behind a motor car pumping out

down and leeling the power

and control of this beast of a

pressure rising to the limit of

the adrenatine rush. All motor

enthusiasis with a computer

that could streamte these

Codemasters have come to

TOCA Touring Car Championship is the official

racing game of the Auto

Trader/RAC Betish Touring Car

fast action racing included in the

package. No other racing game to

racing simulation. If any product springs to mind it would be Grand Prix

with a year and a half to wait for

true winner with its exceptional

competence and realism of this true

2 by Microprose which out raced all of

its compelitors in its class. Leaving us

something that resembled racing. Well

fellow racer's it's been worth the wait

because TOCA has risen to the top of

TOCA has an the trimmings of a

with all the excilement and

date can compete with the

the party and released one of

the best driving simulations of

white-knuckle driving

sensations, unlimow

the decade

have been walling for a game.

machine has the blood

300 horsepower Pulling your foot











### TOURING CAR championship

graphics leading the way. It supports all the 3D accelerators and praphic cards giving superb special effects to the exciting gameniay. It's always a good Idea to have a 3Dfx card handy due to the extra benefit it gives to the lower end machines which lend to battle with bi-res, and frame rates.

Codemasters have capitalized on the Beense they obtained from the BICC, which is arguably the most excit no racing you will VEL SEE

and have me left a

advenaling and realism of true racing. unturned in their quest for superior playability. All the

respective vehicles are available to race including a few other surprises if

Ohi Not where the heck is the front view

you happen to pick up a cheat or two. The dominance of the Renault team over the last two years has been added to the games A, with Honda and Audi close on their talls. With the Renaults extra horsenower and the Aug 5 traction followed by the Honda's awtound ability it leaves the game with some fast close contact

All the exciting action including spectacular spin-outs and heart stopping constons with authentic car controls, mechanics and crash damage. It is spectacular to watch

ISSUE I

of your disappear from a



front end smash and the hark windscreen pop out because of an

over enthusiastic driver who forgot where his breaks were

The vehilles react to different surfaces with great accura y demanding

concentration of the highest calibre. There is nothing more frustrating than leading a race on the last lap and your

rear tyre happens to catch the drass resulting in a spin into the

devastating sand relegating you nto third spot A, this can be overcome by keeping on the road, that is easter said than

the gameniay is as real as have been privileged to see with godium places going to crivers who have factically outbraked and outmaneuvered Preir opposition. Codemasters have added an interesting Al to the drivers whose personal lies have been programmed into the dame and react to certain situations the same as they would in the real deal. This gives you a clear unperstanding of how each driver's lactics and

techn gues will be in each race. Giving Alan Menu a little nudge from behind will almost certainly be politely returned if the opportunity arises

the control of the vehicle is judged by the difficulty setting, with the hard option giving the ultimate test of laming these beasts. It must be said that using a gamepad or the keyboard s extremely diff-cult and



REVIEWS Under FINE

needs a little extra practice but then we are all use to these control. mechanisms. If you are lucky enough to have a steering wheel then TOCA supports any analog or digital controller and is highly recommended for added realism and control

The sound in TOCA is excellent from the purr of the motor to the crack. of the fire spouling exhaust backfire Tiff Needell who adds his special. brand of comments and voice to the beginning and ending of auchampionship races gives commentary. He does not however give any race commentary and I feel this would have really been a welcome addition but was somehow dismissed for certain reasons

TOCA has fur multiplayer support with 8 player LAN that runs very well on a standard 10HaseVI network and only needs one CD to run all the

not lucky enough to have a network installed then a 1 4 player split screen mode is available with very little. performance break down if this option is used. One of the more disappointing features happened to be in the multiplayer mode because of the exclusion of the other computer drivers when racing against human

players, If you are

opponents, tuckily Codemasters have addressed this problem in the 11a patch upgrade which is available now

What makes TOCA really stand out Is Codemasters obsession for true

detail. The 9 real tracks available are almost exact replicas of the actual tracks with details taken from the Ordinance Survey Solution Centre There is multiple weather condition all with special effects and Daction differences. Full championship (full lans) and short (hampionship (shortesed amount of laps) modes are



Cannot touch the master in full flight (Ed sasy mode)

options that pit your ability to the full. A three lan qualifying sessions determines prid positions for the 2 race meebnds per track and save games are only available once the track meetings have been completed

With all of mediocre racing simulations out there TOCA is a welcome relief for the racing lover. All of TOCA's leatures combine into one faniastic product with few flaws and many advances in this genre. Due to its all round playability and graphics TOCA won't find its way into my recycle bin until samebody comes upwith a racing sim to rival II. True value for money is hard to come by and Codemasters have given us racing buffs just that. This simulation comes highly recommended and will truly be a welcome addition to anybody's collection

Don't you ever wash your calling chample





the padium.

Car

#### Space Flight Sim:

Min Required Recommended

Developer: Particle Systems

Publisher: Ocean Software

PC Multimedia Tel (011) 792-8542 R 299.00

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I I's presty allflicult to lear minimusy from a Wing Commander Prophecy at the best of Ilmes, so when I was ordered to review a game in the same genre ! pelicly declined the offer. Trying my best to explain my blas towards Prophecy fell on deal care and I was threatened there any have their consessed as the time Got be one and through the or bear Common Last to take a property of destined to silp late the market

Still reveling in the glory of Wing Statist resilizing that no 3D acceleration was offered for FWAI, there seemed livie happy for this title by infogramus. Hain and simple European packaging has me wondering if II was possible to immigrate



Here about the paint job on that indy able, funks.

to Greenland Inf. search of the bored to-death-damings SROWINER:

Fortunately for rae the Immigration officials have their eye on me because they are washing Harrison (Kari (You have a BRAIN.

Please spank the can this be a game that svals Prophety? K



certainly tries hard and all this without the dazzle of 306c. The graphics are sume of the best I have ever seen unaccelerated with excellent frame injes. You raks ngihing 所

the special effects department, which include nebular, lense flare and explosive offects of the highest standards. If you erry in the time or the beat free M not be a waste of maney. A whapping 14miaules

This game is potentially a chart topper if only for its courageous attempt at competing rendered in this tough genre tul scene maraks you he you power up the game, I sat starry

were formed twe a century ago. The colonias were used to keep the earth flourishing and this didn't stand well with the colopials. A rebel force was formed called the Indies resisting the military by this view and destroying milkery ships. This is where you step in to save the day lot the Commonwealth, Unfortunated you cannot play as the Indies which had me wondering if I was fighting on the

Antibody seen my may glasses, this glacy is hilling me.

Class Corvette with full control of all functions of the craft via the enboard display, You also receive help from your crewmember who keep you updated and 1 to 10 miles

The controls are similar to most surner of this nature

flight the ships are difficult to control at first, this is due to the close similarity to: the physics of space. You craft reacts realistically to the vacuum, so much so that It can be considered difficult to control, luckly there are many facets of the flight mechanism that kelps the beginners such as the multiple autopitots. For these, who consider themselves seasoned

point is from a blocky to a block common BARRY bit

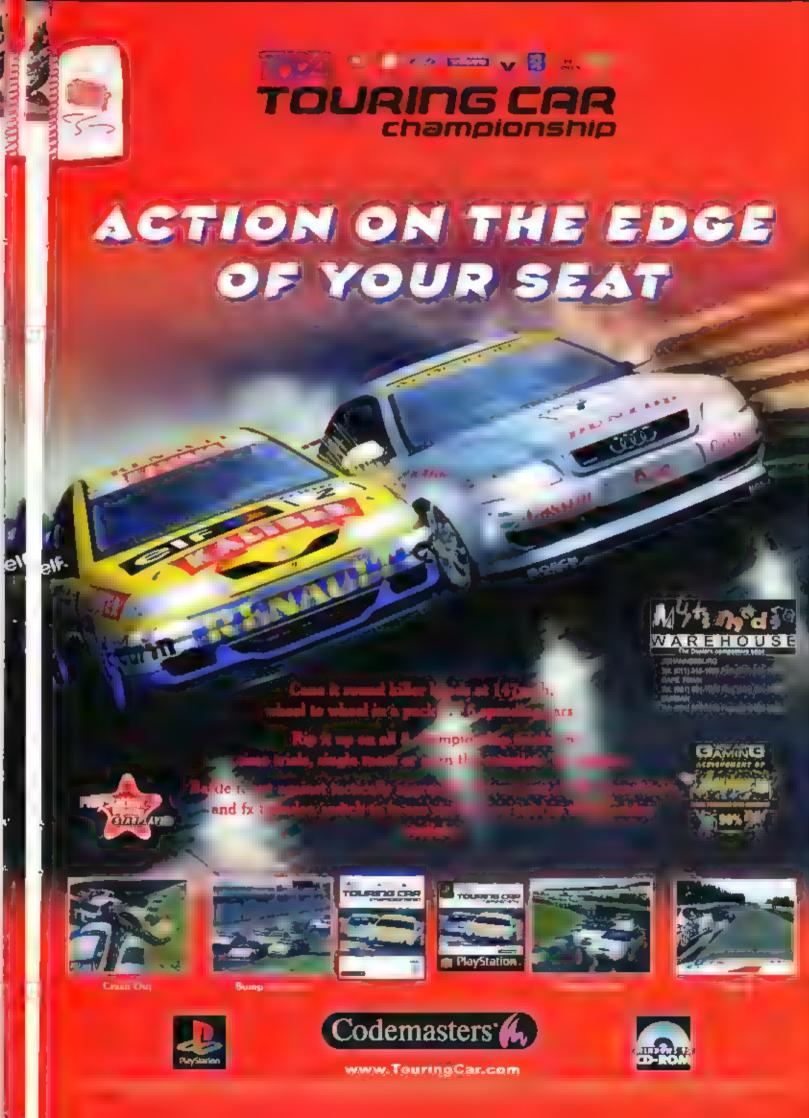
I than surprisoned spen fit on Participation (Carleing The provider 1904) this well suckased and conceptualized dame:

shipped tota this market Almost umnaticed, Wate up sessie this. Bank K potentially a

only for its :сонгафеойй altempt at.

this tough genee. This is one of those games that will stirthose awards and surprise the big

The missions are story driven and need to be handled diplomatically at times instead of the rapid-fire (inger. The boys, I decided to give I-War a well- 🛲 deserved Merit Award and to tive performances obtained in missions also Prophecy a sest, I just hope I can complete determine which branch in the story yell I-War with the right ending this lime, Jollow slictwing for multiple and mas. You take control of a Dreadnought www.infogrames.com



#### **ADVENTURE**

#### Min Required

Recommended

Directs Compatible SVGA Directs Sound Cord 4 x Charn as MB light drive space Wie 93 Directal 2 Mt SVGA Direct L Sound Card 85 MB Harri-drive space Win 95

Developer: Take 2 Interactive

Publisher: Interplay

Supoller

EA Africa Tel: (Oll, 792-7019

RRP: R 299 00

International Internet Site www.bdahila.com International Download ... www.take2games.com/products.html

arely does a game cross my desk that I enjoyed us much as Black Dahlia This new adventure pame from Take 2 interactive deives na hi occut of Nazi-Germany our ing the World War if period. Using the familiar interface. of Ripper, Take 2 have created a world full of mystery and riddled with puzzles. Spanning over 8 CD-ROM's Black

The just picked the lock how to find my feet again.

Talk about a stiff neck could someone call my Chiropractor

excellent candidate for DVD because of the size and amount of cutscenes in it, unfortunately Take 2 made a decision to suck to the

Brack Dahlla uses three historical events and combines them into a sarry ine filled with intriduct and ouzzies. Firstly there is America's first modern serial killer dubbed 'The Torse Remot

Dahlia would have been an

laider installed base of CD-

secondly a sad part American Instuty

where a grow sing young actress named Elizabeth

Short was found tortured and dismembered in a parking lot, she was immortalized with the nickname

Brack Dahlja\* Thirdly but by no meal's least is the Naze's fascination with the occult. The occuelement forms the main bases for Black Dahid Personally Lland games based around the occult very tascinaling, probably because it is something better left unlouched

Taking place in Cleveland you play the part of COL (Coordinator of Information, a predecessor of Iodav's CIA) agent named Jim Pealson. Here you are assigned your first case, which involves tracking down a suspect distributing Nazi propaganda pamphlets with occult runes on it



Black Dahila's difficult puzzies and detailed plot unervingly

produces an excellent occult mystery.

you are immersed into a world that involves the drugsome and mysterious. The occuliaspect of Brack Dahlia revolves around Norse Mythology and one of their

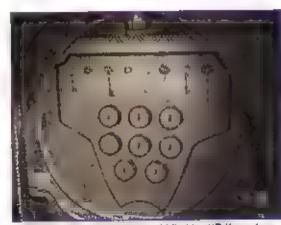
gods called Odin and a

dem with rune

caryings called the Black Dahlia which is rumored to have gower to enable the user to enter other neopie's dreams. Imprecsing you nic the time per oil of World War # Like 2 Internelive has rosa a chiesch. and every visua element in Black Dublia to be his inteasy according

Everything from posters to tampshades looks authenia The story reeks of ongina-ly and t thoroughly enjoyed playing the game





Looks like a doorlock you would find to JHB these days

## Black Dahlia



Reminds me of kindergarten but don't be fooled this is fough

with over 60 highly detailed locations to visal, Unfortunately Black Dabba doesn't seem to have multiple endings or a branched story line, making II a.

play and forget game, not a big deal when you consider the depth of the story and most games in this genretollow a similar formula Some superb actors were tired for the production including Dennis Hopper one of Honywood's top actors. With actors of his calibre you don't have to be bothered with scenes where you are just not convinced.

by character's sincerity. An excellent tob has been done by Take 2

Is there an airport nearby or is that my heart taking off

Interactive of compositing the actors anto their environments. There is no evidence of the key colour used on the blue stage which results in a faint blue tine around composite (mages, Barely seen by the naked eye, but certain gamers pick up quick on flaws of this

Graphically Black Dahlia stands out in my mind as one of the besttendered games

available loday. At hist glance the game looks very similar to Ripper but features many advancements in the engine. I would have like to move my



This is a subconsious vision of paradisa (ye. right Ed)

character more freely last II seems the developers didn't agree with me. The game uses the same semi 360 style

movement engine as Ripper. The only restrictions being that you cannot took up or down all the way and your character can only stand within certain hotspots at locations Not only does the

Black Dahlia offer exceptional graphics but in an people of the second also delivers premium sound to the for more in the Sergeant A. Jones areast. O.b. T.B. player, Every location has its style of Shake's Found on the ord at music, adding ambience to YOUR surroundings

and creating a realistic feeling of the World War It period

This game has puzzles gaiore and none are for the timid, these puzzles are challenging to say the least. All of the buzzles either have direct clues in the dame or are logical puzzles. meaning if you fiddle long enough with it you'll figure out what to do. I must say some of these puzzles are very difficult and dlack Dahlia is definitely not for players beginning adventure/puzzle games, not unless you're a member of the Mensa Society or an aspiring Sherlock Holmes Overall Black Dahlia is one of the best detective type adventure games ( placed in a long while, offering depth that is rarely seen in games today. A di-finite buy disour forté is de ective work and log puzzies



These occult guys have welrd eating places.





R 299.00

international Demo Download www.ubisoft.com 5 A Downland www.gamesdomain15.co.za

aking place on the hostom of the acean where you play as Bubba kosh one man in a face of one people. Most of the inhabitancy of this micro would make a light from surveying mora and our from the ocean hone the metocoming from what us from as duma in the mean as seran the fort marely for Hobba an overhead trasvier just comped a soup carinto the steam, trushing his house. Aimost not of credity and homeless he has to go me the deep ofter senuce and make a living. This is where you come in and take



commodities a luties and selling hem at another for a profit builds up your credits and like anybody that has ever played a trading game knows, profit 6 king tising our extra credits your anthen purchase missiles, magnets an tipiner aseful ajuls Having he right rouls enables Bubba to take on mission for different colors Of reiling a host of different lybes of missions makes

stile year don't get for funed during gamepias, although this can be hard when your maneuvering around such a beautiful



How about a complaint about the chloring levels down here?

pollutes the seas have become

Flound ses, and lings missing form Sub-Culte that affect guiteplay Criterions should have solded some cinematic scenes





Giaponially Sub Culture is stamming, Offeriors Studios have created an amazing underwate, world populated with 1sh and rates with 13b; technology Using a coloured tog like Out they have recreated the purkness of the deep diving you almost a sense of being in a real subvisibility is amned to note a few meters because or this and can been inding the ever clusier me and metaero a hunting expedition.

for missions to make it more this resting Some a man the may locking purished the ability to customize the house more would have seen welcome and found it annoying that to apply reverse the pitch axis on the mause I have always going up when wanted a go down Ove il Sub-Cut are is a short game sisting at most four days. Recause of his million multiplayer support the game's life span's airly short and of ersine real value in playing again once you have Unished the

Expendiced players won't lind the game challenging, but Sun Cidrate should appear to the newer generation of gamers. Not quite as cetailed as Privateer, but un

wonder what currencies you pay in the gill (Boool) .Ed,

on he pair as a freela in a sub-capitaln Think of Sub-Culture as mainly a trading game, tke Privateer in the nccan, You can either congressour Sub-from a first nerson prespective view of using and outside view, making it a snap to cruise around and discover ones. Purchasing different







#### First Person / Strategy

Min Required

Selections and Why 1 mg 5V6A 2 x Chom 50 MH hand dive space Win 95 Olive 13 3

RRP.

Recommended

Pendulini 166 MMX PHILIPPING TO THE MAN 13 MIN MAN 13 MIN MAN 14 MIN MAN

Developer: Cyclone Studios abou

Publisher: Ubisoft Ent

Multimedia Warehouse Supplier Tel: (Oll) 315-1000

International Demo Download www.ubisaft.com SA Download

www.gamesdomain.is.co.za

R 299.00

here are pany games that have a sempted to subtractly efficient genies. Not many have succeeded in the question must be gamenay especially in the irs person a romand strategy mold 1 hank we have mind a close challenge. for the crown, Conston, has all acree for it import mediuse to commonance of a Challe and Warefull type game has gelled impressively together Hinding as a game of autsaming rigger movement and quick thinking

Larly generations ago, the planet or Soles was adacased and destroyed by an anknown enemy. Banding all of Known. Space together, formed a military power or amprecedented puscet.

Viscoliti control of the Wealth a Command Centre, and powerful ground assault vehicle singers from he moretum t they will be the me adous arsenor of we some hour objective site (dem is from Zunes Chargy Clied areal and Indicathers by fortifying the area, if you control all of he Hot Zones you control he plane.

Ublsof have taken he graph-toaccelerator toute by adding some warmets impressive graph its hur with escience disappointing Jetal The enaig is plate and anti-teresting, leaving you. Jeeling that the planet is not worth saving anyony. The Jame rates are good with

textures admining within fault to my apinion he solute is a most impressive eaturn of the game. nils respond with Centiment and Conquer Jlu halter and the sound ellicity are too class

You have the standard controls or keybored, joysnok or mouse to manility of your wrath. The obvious choice aging the musice and Quake which Olares vote maxim on speed and control A

REVIEW

very annoying side issue ty the amount of keys that need configuring. Being a fan of my own personal settings of lies, person perspective I needed to configure certain keys. This left me with a great deal of problems allocating keys to the onespended especially which you need all or them for familions

he soategy element of the game. requires a great deal of concentration with action freaks having to restain the risches. from neglecting a A fair amount of but just management is counted with small amounts of resource management Your Chader's he Colomband Centre of that not Zone and is needed in opigade. you redby not to project. It acts as a tisso Half allowing you to build Barracks ontantive lank factors (via. visia, AAV



Production racility factor assault vehicle. Bomber farility (aerial bompers) and moster law his These are the anismindings manable but can be technologically appraised improving the tech levels of the lands produced Upgedding the buildings and corresponding units are anothe for the dominance of each



One imperium Citidel hits the dirt



This Wraith has awasome fire powe

planet. As a lovet of stlapegy 11 June 10 be lacking depth to be game with to rew opports and units, then on the other side it found indifficult to allocate time pecacyes. was to bow browing things on

Will the combina on or he geners he action is assumed tunions giving little congive attention to line specific detail. The august At 6 incregible intelligent sons alle from the late amount mission. invares. This had me wander on whether could complet the game without their 19the implie opponent is as too lough a times not allowing he have any daps felt like was naving beep add computer controlled chass, by among ad become excepteds Engiteded that evalue of chouse a office by setting, just mease you have the same peabling, have loctuded he Wraftli as inerables them at the and or talk.

All multiplayer facets has a been mores in ill with a mayor's CN 10190 and 2 player Modern has the apparets pick s es effect and suspent as the multiplayer aspert will be used more than the sculleplayer will be admost the maying Quality Class with the quick thinker her aming the

I bisult has suched a fine cord on my pione with this en expresing game, although it is difficult to shighe player and lineas. death I am confider that his ope or game will become more and more appared in a garning teld alcadening the reasons that seen to a fading about

In the Wraith press 'M' to get into chat mode and then enter chump' This will make your Wraith invulnerable





Take Strategy to the Front Lines.



ing 950, Baltiezone introduced into 3-D graphics; changing the table of demind forever. Now Battlezone is about to change your perspective or parting once again with intense first person action and. ancompromising real-time strategic warfare:

links convinced on the Bettleffeld. Not above it





**ACTIVISION** 

inal philiotek il Adminio, les CASTA Astrony, tr. Sephanel il a malificiale el Man IX commune. C. 2000, 2007 pm Al right statori, limmal le Adminio, Mallor imbroghe mai pule somo, qui fin proposar el finit accome, questas,

Legacy of Time

(The Journeyman Project 3) (cont)

## REVIEWS Under Fine

#### RACING SIMULATION

Min Required

1 mg VSA 4 % Clivom 70 MB hard drive space

2 mg VGA 6 X (Drom 70 mh herd-drive spoor Win 95 (Directly,

Recommended

Developer Presto Studios

Publisher:

Red Orb Ent

Supplier

EA Africa Tel. (OII) 792-7019

RRP R 299.00

International Demo Download www.journeymanproject3.com

ा अक्ष मध् en the successes of the first two ,ourneyman Project's is a challenge of its own if we remember back to the inception of the CD-ROM game we are reminded that Journeyman was one of the first to utilize this technology This release

being no

exception

with four

(Disjam-

packed

graphics. sound and nformation As with

the previous JP's you are enlisted in the TSA as Agent 5, charged with guarding the sanctity of history You take the part of Gage Riackwood, a

protector and bergof time travel. The story unfolds incredibly well and is the most entovable facet of this production. Basically It is the quest for the ancient knowledge of time travel and

who will be the quardian of it Your quest is to traver back in time and ancient art far is that will give the

graphical facelift with point and click hanging on to the controls. It for ows on the go everywhere, lake everything, louch everything and talk to everything mold of adventure

Another downside to LoT comes from the linear puzzle adventuring hat dominates the play. There are no side plots, multiple endings of cross

> adventuring what so ever Everything must lonow the correct sequence to compete the challenges. This is not uncommon in adventure games but a more openadventure would have raised the evenrows.

To compriment this holoughly entertaining story tol needed to maintain the graphical standards they set and this they do extremely well. All of the cut scenes are cinematics of the highest order

## EGACY OF TIME

knowledge White all this happens a great bathe is about to take place between two altenraces with mankind in the middle So Gage and the ISA are once again the only hope of saving the human Date

I tere are many similarities between Legacy of Time and Is predecessors The merface and movements. have not change much at all, Leaving me frustrated with the time ii took to get around the time zones. the gaming mterface has taken a

and are surprisingly longer than you average adventure game. They simulate the story with perfect precision and are performed by an experienced cast of actors, some of which might ring a bell. At times I became more engressed in the cut scenes than the playing of the game the background graphics and



Damn. I forgot to bring my snow ski s



cinematic characters gel seamiessly creating extremely detailed environments. A large amount of research has gone into the historical background of the time zones visited and could provide

even a history professor with

weicome Insight

The music and sound effects are above average and well structured. As you move over snow, wooden Boors and other areas you are welcomed with the corresponding sounds. This immerses you in the scenes that are

561 by combining interactive sounds with The

the music is soft, soothing and preffs much standard to this game genre March 19

> gameplay revolves around Interacting with other characters and Arthur You wondering who the beck

Original storuline combined with intellectual puzzies make

this a must buy for adventure gamers

Ship ahoul I should reach Cape Town by 2365 AD.

is Arthur? He is your right hand.

artificial

intelligent

bilanously

computer that

comments on

everything to

be seen. He

could easily

lind a prime

spot on any

comedians

of his side

not only

keeps a

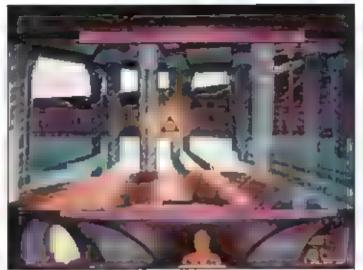
face but

splitting one

liners. Arthur

smile on your

show because



Amazing how these triangular objects can save manking.

that is needed to complete the pame. so listen to him carefully. He is also your only source of help during those difficult puzzles that are strewn across the CD's so don't be afraid to ask him. for that tip that might save you weeks in playing time.

informs you of important information

Some of the most disappointing features of games now days are the endings, saising you up and dropping you down. Such ant climaxes are common but finally I can say folly ending was worth the frustrating interface and extremely difficult puzzles. I am impressed with the total all round package of The Journeyman

3 Legacy of Time. This comes with the highest recommendations to all adventure builts and other intelligent beings but beware this is not a

game for beginners



#### - Top - Down Action -

BMG Interactive

Electronic Arts

EA Africa Tel: (OII, 792-7019 R 769.00

www.bmginteractive.com.wav.ec.acumat.

www.pamesdomainre.co.za -ser in commen

to appendicated of its production will pick up its fair share of cultallowers this is due to its interpret of asing the marger soliting.

assassinating onigs, swearing and much more to capture he adult audiences if the garing hacks. Lean't think in parent will conside allowing any owner index the age of Bib play this game antess they catemen tenent

buckly are not a paren and nexthere is mark of games that caller for the responsible while we are depoyed decides. the market is more agriconscious but then that's an mean of debate to termer for Danishment



is that a criminal record or what

Grand Their Auto is a to punches polled pame at unethical proportions. You pids the role of a gangster who is controlled by probaters in all incertain terms Rupoling is land carrying in duties 50 Oleima it scale that in death ocially would regation, as a legicht surrence Uncringly you due seem to consider the

anethical nature of the game becook 15 a fundamental part of the story line and without a the game would have bit he INKODE prizes.

Your maying perspective is of the top-down nature with a zoom fragule für up close detail. Considering the voc of game Bits a welcome change to the first and third



Person pusping No. gentlin Sypical driving sims. The graphic a style lakes us mark to the ECA. Charles agains **Геенто**-дерикей capside ing the

graphical levels that have been so lover the List less months. I have a speciality suspicion that he or down prophiles some from the 1970's probably ero that ar game is set to out o metholess, since most OBSODOLBING CAMPE

he game has a wonderful array of music that numps through sout uniesponsise speakers. Cha if eis gameis 60 minutes com su performed as today's masterius, which agus temperament and charisma to the continuation growther Sound of his we used melligency thoughour arter productions in livery to, especially the passe by sometions or

the saliding revolves are ad your solbs to a damp optiale animal of enses the ome dioraten yn nwr iotaforedom to kill, whick and reek havor throughout the offes dis South Africans will not anniectate the case of which your character can black, ars but we the may sellicity YOUR I HOLL IN HIS

vone with y

quite exciting to hips k the quicker Poiscoe's and spoils cars. It is ence to know that the Police do knep tabs on your fallowers and you have to the peoping their interest in you. I as loss as



possible otherwise you may eni, up being susued.

But then the interobject or in game is to piss.

here in and exceeding he speed timb while in a

appropped cally use is all

correlling the vehica's and your

ip a days work

Hehe Just taking the Cop Car for a joynde

the office of a public of worth words and GILS OF THE OF THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY I say to the working out the best acsolute route to det to virur desiliation. I must say that he eraps in huge and in said to liver around 6000 km list adus to the salear size of the game which is direct

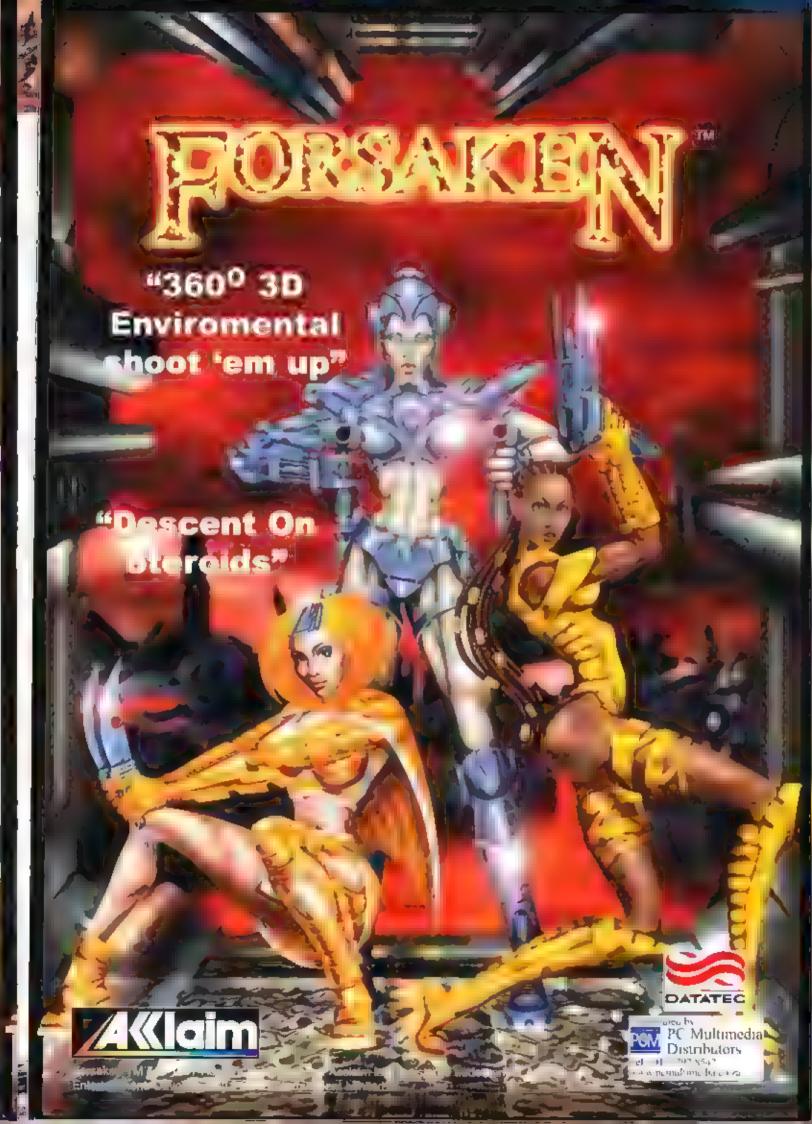
nes engling stills a see indoor lu musiere musidan's

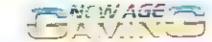
GH move ciathy amazero nebut has less quad on its 1 er commend (U.S.) actiffs moking for differentiffs of approach to depring in think that we tell surely has pleas of differences of

opinions in the great less of G.A but I. onside: If he is an average observation to indays all feati gaming world









ISSUE I

#### > RPG / ADVENTURE -

Developer: Squaresoft

Publisher: Sony International

Ster Kinekor Tel. (Oll) 445 7900

RRP: R 359.00

#### International Site

www.squaresoft.com

Willia No download. Only available on Playmentons

m rom SquareSoft comes the game. called Linal Fantasy VII. Based In a Jantasy/sci-ft world spanning over three disks and is the one of the largest and most immersive dames I have ever played, I have to admit that I haven't played any of the



previous Final bantage dames. bot from now on I will play each anu every one that

comes out. Be warned this game will suck up your spare I me and your social life will cease to exist

Tax no place in a world where the Shinra Corporation has devised

a way to mine energy directly from the plane). Whenever someone dies, the toenergy is relained to the planet and become one with it. Using this mechanism the Shiora Corporation supplies energy to the inhabitants of the planet. Being the only corporation that supplies energy, they soon become the ruing authority Slowly

FINAL FANTASY VII

but surely the planet is being d a ned of a. Its resources and will cease to exist in a matter of time. In the mids, of the suppression a resistance group is born called Availanche Objective, to over hrow and destroy the all mighty Shinra.

Corporation, You are Cloud, an exscidier of Shiora, and a new member of Avaianthe This is where von take corrror and decide the fate of the planet the story might

sound a bit complex, but finalantasy VII target aug ence isn't

On screen characters appear as slightly blocky models surrounded by vividly painted backdrops. Even though the character might be a bill blocky,

> you'll be amazed by the sheer amount of emotions they can perform Everything from laughting to

The highly Jetaded rendered cut scenes that are shown to you as you progress through the game are some of the host thave ever seen and are use

to advance the story and enform you of each chalacters

> background How SquareSoft dot so many culscenes anto a CD I will never know Mostly the

cut scenes utilize the gaming interface to tell the story but every now and then a for illy rendered cut scene. shows up portraying the characters in their full glass

A note of sadness is added to the game mainly due to tranqui background music playing as your party explores the world

From the main interface you move your party around the world, and communicate with non-player characters using lext boxes. I know text boxes are a bit pated and most pamers would consider this tedious. but you are so engrossed in the story

that you fee like VOL are reading a hover You mee. ather piayable characters ds Wire progress



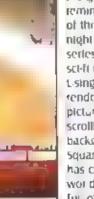
"If you don't go out and buy this game you will surely be!" missing out on one of the greatest adventures of modern time.

> kids. The dame is more orientated lowards the leenage and adult market The initial story only lays out the hackground information and Cloud. builds much of the story by making decisions and talking to people

I have always been a lan of Jananese Animation (Manga) and therefore loved the interface and

> Everything n the game reminds me of the rate night Manga series on the sci-fi channel. Using are rendered pictures and scrolling backgrounds. Square5oft has created a world that is ful of detail and mystery

graphics



Everybody move Clouds about to sneezel

THE PERSON



## Final Fantasy VII



Will somebody please turn off the power switch sizzle

through the game and can eventually form a combat party of three. This does not mean you are mited to only three characters in your party, only that three can engage in combat at a time. Since the game has a level structure for characters its imperative that you cycle them so everyone can get experience to advance while in combat. Containing quests within quests, a can become a mission getting everything done, but that is what it's all about. Having so many things to do makes the game phaesting and extend.

Wandering around your party will enter combat at random, or onpurpose if you engage one of the bosses. Final Fanlasy VII has enemies



An averyless of the world man

APRIL 98

galore, every time Libral, b have seen every single enemy, up pops another one Combat is achieved using automate camera ciesco swirling around. zooming in and out, and pking a movie axe

view of the

action. It is almost a game within a game. Being kind of turn based, you cannot make an attack unless your attack bar is full and emplies out after every attack Taking this into consideration, each light is considerably fast, lasting only a minute or two. Madic is pained by equipping your characters with different materia, a substance that is manufactured from the planet's energy. The magic system in limit Faritasy VII has endless possibilities, by combining different materia you can

more of different spells. In most of the places you visit you will be able to purchase Items like weaports, policos materia etc.

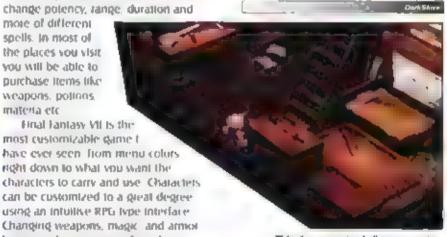
Final Fantasy VII is the most customizable game t have ever seen. from menu colors eight down to what you want the characters to carry and use. Characters can be customized to a great degree using an intuitive RPG type interface Changing weapons, magic and armor has never been so easy from here

you can also change your combat party to suit your needs.

REVIEWS Under Fin

to place final fantasy VII into any daming gente calegory would be an mjustice to the game. It is in a calegory of its own. The closest that I can come is to call it a fantasy/sci-It adventure/action role-playing game Lonly hope the next version has speech, this would be a major advancement in the final ran asy series fust think, a 10 CD dame .-!

This game is simply the best if have EVIR played, be it on PC or Playstation. Coming from a person that thinks the PC is far superior to a Playstation, this is a bold statement Graphically there are games in the advanced but story and depth wise nothing can touch it. SquareSoft have put their heart and soul arto this game and I think it shows. Good news for PC gamers is that SquareSoft is bringing out final fantasy VII later this year for the Windows platform. If you don't go out and buy this game you will surely be missing out on one of the greatest adventures of modern time



This damn service bell never works



Platform

Developer: Oddworld Inhabitants

Publisher: GT Interactive

Supplier:

Was I wrong?

EA Africa Tel. (Oll, 792-7019

R 399.00

International Download SA Download

aving landed the om nous task of reviewing a game from South African supplier Mult metala Watchouse with the name such as Oddworlds PlayStation didn't leave a wonderful taste n my mouth. With the first dance of the packaging it seemed desained for the bottom draw. Wowl

Everything about Abe's Oddesee has at pped me by the hoxet sho is and pulled unwards towards the brilin. Leaving mc fully aware of the wonder that was our before me. Nothing could have prepared me for the week that was to come.

intros are one of the main features of any game and Abo's Oddesee certainly doesn to disappoint. Actually It takes its place up in my top ien without a doubl. This animation speciacie Informs you as well as it possibly can about the story of Oddworld and its inhabitants that you will happen to meet. I played it through a few times when tipowered up the Playstation before I clicked to bypass 1

Nothing about the product makes you aware of the type of game. Dodworld's. That's why when you enter the game for the flist I me you are caught by surprise. A shock reverberates through your body. Oh! No, a platform game, Relax people this game looks like a piatform game. but plays ke an artion adventure. This is the reinvention of a genre of game. iong past its lifetime. Speciacularly pu together to create one of the most enjoyable games of the year

You play the role of Abe, a Mudokon trying to get through the with as little bother as possible it all

A welcome return to the platform ere of old combined with humour and playability produces a quality game.

begins in Oddword, a world of poverty and wearth. Inhaalted by croel and extremely victous creatures. One main objective needs to be adhered to. Ensure the survival of your race. the Mudokogs. The Murankons are a

neaceful and spiritual race. But in any world you have to make a living. Most of the Mudokon rare have found slavery in the most profitable business in Oddworld, the dangerous slaughterhouse. Tels

food processing plant with the name of Rupture Farm is the root of all food supplies. Abe has one of the better positions in the business; he waxes

> and cleans, he floors, You wonder how this creates an adventure. Well Abo. happens to everhear Rupture Circus newest product the Mudokon Pie (vummy). Mos. of the other food resources have dwindled to nothing, therefore leaving

Rupture farms which is run by the ruthless and money hungry Mullock the Glasson who represents the Magog Cartel, with little choice but to use its slave population of Mudokons Abe panies and off he goes on the quest of his life to save himself and his race



Where is a step ladder when you need one?

The story of Abe's Oddesee is what makes this platform game a lot different than asoa. It has fundamental characters each with their own look (and body odour). Leaving

you with firmly set objectives of saving the cute though ugly race of Mudokons

this brings us to the objective of the game. As the manual puts it. 'Suffice is to say that your mission. is a lot more complicated than just running away from Rupture farms, You'll have to brave haunled

temales, rescue your buildies. survive we'rd ritigal mut alters at the hands of Bioface (Spiritual leader of Mudokons), learn secret moves, outwill monsters and furninto a monster yourself before your addysee is complete ... and even then, you'll probably get the bad game ending because you missed so much stuff the first time through. I can personally youch that these words are perfectly true. The entire environment is

massive to say the least. This is arguably the iongest patform game available. stands out in tremendods effort

hat has gone into the character animations. There are no still movements from any of the characters and there is plenty of humor added into the animations (watch out for Abers mounting his perfrum). Creating true to life maneuvers that are a joy to watch as you control. After through this graphical

What certainly

Abers is the

environment. Graphically Oddworld is superb. Bringing the best out of the Playstal on and using all of its ability in the graphical department

The setting for Oddworld is dark and moody with an abundance of bird for which are or leaf for the rescuing of your friends. Setting the amoiance for this type of setting relies heavily on the sounds and music. Not much can be said of the music but it doesn't play as much of a part in the game as the sound effects do full of life and function is the best way to describe the sounds of a truly amoue world Right down to the whistle and fart that

## Oddworld -Abe's Oddysee (cont)

Ahe somehow needs during his quest

Oddworld uses the platform method to great effect by adding a certain element of mind games and puzzles. An example would be the combination of moves and sounds that have to be methodically used in order to pass certain areas within the game. Abe's adds many new and interesting features to this genre of game. The main altribute that stands out for me is the mariner in which you don't have to continually save. This helpful tool works by subdividing the game into small sections. Once you successfully succeed in passing a section. I will then save at the beginning of the next section. This sounds odd but works extremely well The developers are consistent in the are,, between the save spot, giving you a fair idea of the objective that

needs to be passed before you are sale from being returned all the way back which can be quite annoying

A memory card is a diffinite because of the size of the dame You will be punching away at your gamepad for

many a long night before you crack Abe's. There are seven different environments each with their own backdrops and praphics creating different challenges that vacy in difficulty. Something that seems to happen throughout is the changing of difficulty for passing certain dangers. They lend to get more and more difficult as you go along but not as much as with other games. You need

APRIL 98

to think logically to overcome the obstacles that always seem to pun up in hont of you, to my amazement one of the most difficult areas is right in the beginning when you have to save one of your fellow employees. No matter what I bred the Slip ta our loting skip with an itchy topper hinger) always blasts him away These Sites are the Glukkons main source of protection and are irritating at the best of times. But overcoming their rubless nature by slamming them into side order soup seems to ease the frustration.

the gameplay and playability is of the highest order. Interactivity between the characters is simple and easy to use. There are tweke moves each used on a regular basis. The developers have created a few help

> screens in the pet you used to the different stays of contioning Abe There are plenty of tips and hints along the was and always keep your eye. mut for diaminos and nomicis that

advise you on which is the best direction. Communicating with follow Mudokons is via nine simple words and body sounds. The nasiest way of getting someone's attention is to say hello. Then once a reply is made a simple 'follow me' will get him tuck in behind you. Getting these co-workers to sland in the right place is challenging enough without you having to duck and dive Sligs and

Ecnic meenle minie moe which way do I go



REVIEW Under FIRE

This chanting thing is super coot

There are a lot of good things to Say about Oddworld and very few bad things. I have a feeling that the character Abe is going to get as much attention as Sonic the Hedgeling did in its first few games. Oddworld Inhabitants plan to bring out four more challenging additions to Abe's Oddysee. If they are as good as the first. I will be the first to add them to my collection, I regard Oddworld as a must buy for any gamer with a take for the bizage and with. You won't be disappointed by an above average creation that has a fair degree of violence if you are opeasy this will get the stomach churning. Its not as bad as Quake but comes pretty close.

Oddworld

8

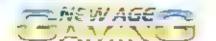
G1 Interactive have taken us back a few years and have brought anve a dying genie. Having added revolutionary graphics and sound with a story line to boot. All the ingredients have been mixed together to bring a dish of superior quality in the area of the gaining market. Abe is sure to awaken the platform games and we can expect a few similar natured dames in the near futbre

Oddworld may not be everybody's cup of lea, but I am confident that quite a few gamers will be changing to this special flavour



PINEW AGE





## Fighting Action Developer: 5 a 3 1/1 Publisher to free to me

International Web Site P1 P '91

pstyrro Blade Is a sysord sidelicity. f about a mains and his kicking action gain and med with an element of strategy. I his is your apple of Quantification. It is said for deep

in the Southern Mountains of inpansector Diopolicytist calls of the Aprilia diagram a 500 sequild hip. Hall

conclues to mach he Naturagami Shinto While the Malkerkan a sec a society or Assessors, after the page is compress to exist a lith sysassin pledges their losilly and propriets to protect the second of the logo an renalis concept. His is at mice to as no Kogo has ever left the 2019.

threateng are code of silence and trying as examine your character becomes capped han dandoned cashe here obligated is Je survive included sixufficable he orbiglongs and escape to augh the Cas in lesser Single play it is started will a small English. interduction or a papanese speech from hen on an Although has have I rightly captions for Bascillo Blade - Teel-Sourcesoft should have made to English dubbed system above it as well-

in all modes of pay you can choose be play the all so, characters with the enjoy bladed w appear a choose from Cach weapon has d's prois and con's shorter one if a weapons have a as reacher time While longer blades have profonged relation time. This factor makes a 1005(mg VIDE WATER & COLLEGE

of strategy. My I want to is the Brigg sword allowing you a fast teaching time white main aining a safe distance from an ցքրեւաբու Նօս տելին ask why is all of this remonant? For the simple teason that you can kill are apponent with who good hink last ike real fle. Characters



### BUSHIDO BLADE

also have no hear hithmand there is no time II no imposed on ant appations date say hat this & If he Bashido Blade's most one reversial point for game s. you will enhouse thou hale it

This being sald 8 issued titade does it er existent two pravet capabilibles. Players can apl 15 play or a single Plays ion if they into have one disk ar use a link



graphics and sound

graanies, making a rotating amera view

nosable Aaautomatic camera is

and uses a 4D engine with nulvgor pased

assign to view he

action, zoughting in and just as it

deens necessary glying the have the besi variage poir is all times. The came or dues accasionally go stuck

behind rees or other abject in the

would, although this is a my rate. The

able to connect two Placs asions. all record cach his over 15 conformately

'Suchide Blade is a sword stashing, "

Bushide Gode

blood draining, and butt kicking action game.

Bushide saide leaterns recell int

this means you have to have also copies or

characters are externely well instance adding derial usually reserve extremely Buspido filade or ers places the seconflest frame in of any ight in that chart so in

to daze delivering a All and the Manager Ma

Businino Blade walks a the flor with its ness fighting enable in outdi attenute oattiers that love the old style. ighting games and Does ter outer tand rold att act a whole new aucience. Evalu are advenus assend taive been looking for a new twist in a fight og garne then Busnido Blace will be a sercome retel











#### Platform:

The Neverhood Dogamworks interactive

Electronic Arts

EA Africa Tel: (Oll) 792-7019 R 289.00

www.ca.com washuding amontous incide himi

broughout he cantho indestry we encounter many developers with renain union lechniques, Skill Munkeys certainly has a left life.

animation and graphical authors syrrom mous with the Neverbood, these faicated groups or gove have a knack ic. Clay modeling and creating exitem by (inpressive topionit) compater lies, this safe a folor Queriers remember the Neve house est their hisare let a griphical buyers Saint name which air gamets looking on

in use Well is in glag to say her carry on then specimen and a humour and graphical talents in Skall Monkeys



skullmankeys and you can adthem of their lowly als existence by bouncing, shooting and artisig on them. Controlling your figurater is easy with injug of apples leing helessence if a PSYMIO DOOD

infortunately the game plays. the case and a cotally are at the the playability area, kunping,



objectives are all the same but it s the second Size and amount of levers hat are wanable no vall keep you Tyling over and over

again to complete the Jam's Lyas happy to see hat you non configer left to confi built any direction if the level

> Skall Monkeys amount be said to be dull own cially because of the sound e fee sound musical. nerhides that salustic. Most of the time you will be in section. the sounds of facts, brimps were more and the most allocimpers. that pup-up in special honus revels

Listas improvedly signification ontrollably with the halmourous antics of the

you play klaymen the last clay action

West This brings back fond memories

hero still puttled logether who armed with

hilanous weapons must over time, he evil-

Skatleronkeys You online the is as simple

as a unploning all the levels possible. All

Albain Kingg and his house of

that stands in your way are the



Did somebody turn out the lights



Here kitty, anyhody bring some bananas

fumping and business doesn make a classic and is a observior among to mose gamers rooming for a touch of depth. Skull Monkeys telles for much in its graphics and namourous nature and not enough an he planatur features that makes these types of games a streets.

mand always condime are purceasing of games, which taker in the or real a phas, by Swar Monkeys should be consume of for the shear world are of the numer graphics and sounce





Behold the power of the farthead

An surprise's come from the granucal elegal as as thin the gathe with smooth and comical characters fawless in thereand sallons. This graphic of spectaciness some or the best to be seen up the Playstagon and shows the abilities of this

consoir it allowed some people might wonder how come to his assessmen because in game is of the mattern genre and has nothing new to the playability densir ment but nevertheless 100ks

Yes I heard you moan when I said. platform but don, he deceived by the older genre's ability to





















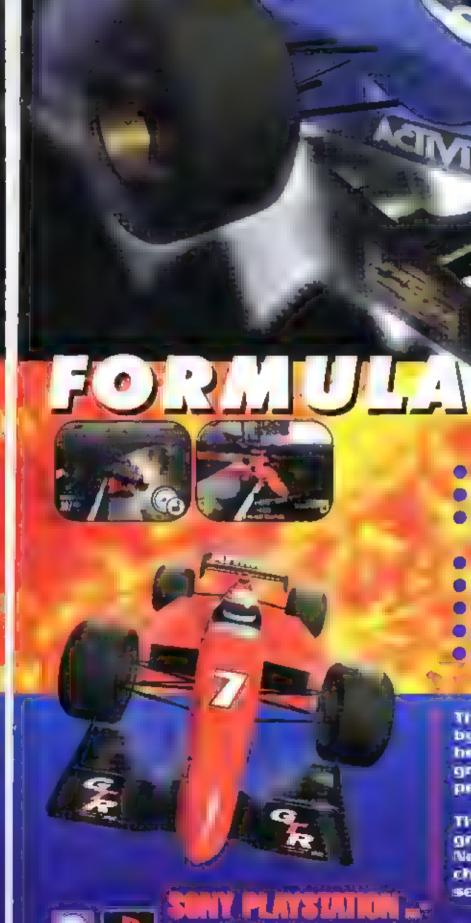














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#### Puzzie Adventure

Developer: Cyan Productions

Publisher: Acclaim

Supplier: PC Multimedia

Tel: (Oll) 792-8542

R 399.00

International Web Site

WWW NVENCOM

pening your eyes and entering a huge graphical antasy world of Immense be auty and serenity sounds like a pipe dream at the best of times. After fouyears of developing River the boys at

CYAN have created just that A graphic masterpiere unfolds before your eyes immersing you in a world of such beauty that going on hollow is just a power switch away.

Riven the sequel to Myst has added to the list of successful PC games to enter the heart pounding action packed adventure. It relies on a serene temperament that slowly moves the game along. Your point and click interface is at times in at only slow and the Playstation in my opinion is not designed for this unique interface. Recommending the mouse controller is almost a prerequisite and will help with the enjoyment and speed of the dame

Superir storyline graphics and intriging puzzies nute the Playetation through its paces.

> given's world is not filled with puzzles that take hours to work out. In actual fact. Riven's world is the puzzle, which has

pieces or sub-pozzles. that have to be solved to complete it Certain pieces which are made apinf switches and buttons, effect your progression and at times you have to return to places already visited was amazed at the thought that has gone into combining these elements and a way. cought out a number of times by passing over obvious pieces, to mider

position of these elements you must read through all the journals and books. recovered throughout the game. They will provide you with important clues and solutions to most of the sub-puzzles, there is actually a little too much reading for my liking stomping the flow of the game and

to work out the correct

Phroughout your quest you are followed with trangoil background music and realism, sound effects. I think that a little bit more enthusiasm to this area.

TONEW AGE

borond me at times.

player that enloys a slow mind bending adventure intherwise this will now the pants off you. I would like to say that the

If I wasn't awake I would think I was dreaming.

Playstation owners must be feeling quite privilenced at

Accidios gerision to being us a change in the normal band. crash bougle kind of game Thanks and thumbs up to Accidim and PC Matteredia.



would have created a

more alive world. If I

were to be totally submerged to the game.

would have hoped for more interest in the

Be warned gamers, his is not a fast

invironment and intriguing puzzles to set

he moud - would have liked to see more

people in the world, seeing that it was to

be populated with villages, but maybe

hey will work on that nex time. The

playability recommend alsen in the

nitte procession our but only a few baws

that don't effect the overall gardengy and

paced gaine but a slow and arduous journey that refles on its graphic



This would make a world wide attraction at Dieney World.

Playstation market by keeping the same critical gameplay that have made this genre of game a success. Riven by no means disappoints and demonst ales the power of he Playstation's versatility by astounding the gamer with graphics and fMV of genius proportions. You have the opportunity to pass through an artificial world, which is rendered, textured, and animated with such incredible detail that it appears touchable. You transverse through perilinus rockways and mountanees caverns filled with motion

Live and frozen riuges. You travel throughout he land on rativaly carts and heme park style mine carts as well as diving bells submerging you in an anderwater paradise Yes Riven Is without a doubt the creme de la creme of graphics, but it has an Interesting storyline filled with puzzks and plots.

Riven is not a







Africa

A

## Barcain Buys

#### Min Required

486 DR 33Mile 4 MB NAM 256-Colour SV(A) 2 X (Diron) 20 MB bank drive space DUS 5.0 or higher

Penhain 98 8 MB NAM 2 M Ctrom 20 MB head-skive spece IMIS 5 E or Nigher

Recommended

Developer: Origin

Publisher: Electronic Arts

Supplier: EA Africa

Tel: (Off) 792-7019

R 99.00

This is due to the incredible explosion of exceptional titles using 3D accelerated graphics that has widehed the gap between classics and forthcoming. System Shock unfortunately doesn't have anything to affer gamers of today. The graphics is terribly outgated and the gamepiay too common to entice gamers. The good side to the game comes from the strategy, action and puzzles that enhance the pamentay. Unfortunately these additions do not broaden the expenence enough to sell the game today, even at 8 99 00.



the unividasion why ti breamme on bluow System Shock is pecause of the low reguliements Ma6 DX3 o in our the game but even then I would recommend Doom



n the times that texture manned 3D worlds were enjoying new found fame we

standing up to the great Doom. An

to survive that period.

aying been a lover of

Bloforge when It was

see If arrive on my desk. Controlling my

urges to lotally flatter the game so that I

extremely difficult. Nevertheless I came up-

Games that revolutionized the market are

ew and far between and increasingly more

difficult to find I consider this game still to

be one of the more challenging littles

could give an objective review was

with the same results.

available. The way it

BIOFORGE

encouraging game was to hit the shelves over

that period called System Shock released by Onomiano Fior Jonic Arts. The East Person.

Perspective was without a doubt the genge to follow and System Shock was one of the lew-

Surviving in today's market as a first person.

Type game even at budget price is impossible.

eed ax damin D Mit Ram 256-Colour Syga yesa 2 3 Hoom 30 MB hand-drive space DOS 3.0 or higher were sifting through products worthy of

Developer: Origin

Min Required

EA Africa

Tel (Oll) 792-7019

Pegliam 90
12 MB RAM
1 Mg PC SVGA
4 X Chroin
55 MB hard-drive space
005 5.0 or higher

R 99.00

House Electronic Arts



he first release to Origin's Crusader series REVIEW caused a fol of hype in the temperamental times of the trusty 486 Crusader No Remaise



welcomed us with new levers of graphics and gameplay sell nos high andards for developers.

Isometric ton-

side view scrolling is outdated by today's

s.andards but adds a different dimension to he pames we see Juday The game is set in he future and Contains some mpressive

graphics with over 3000 frames of bit game incorporates live action video for mission quality cut scenes.

received great accolades since its release and has been given Classic status by Electronic Arts for its contribution to gaming. I can say that at R 99.00 its a steal and remains a formidable player to the nlavability department



Min Regulred

to taluen SyGA A comment of the spane

Pentitin 90 12 MB RAM 1 mg PC SVOA 4 Chrom 29 MB Itaul-driv space DOS 5.0 or higher

Recommended

Developer: Origin

Publisher: Electronic Arts

Supplier: EA Africa

DOS 5.0 or bloker

Tel: (Oll) 792-7019 R 129.00

Incorporates the lighting, shooting, and adventure elements into the gamepiay has been hard to find in loody's games, therefore giving Bioforge the test of time approval. the graphics upfortunately bash to

wearhered the years and disappoints in loday's terms but the 3rd

person dynamic camera is still used in current productions. The characters different fighting moves are difficult to perform at times due to these camera. angle Because of this Biolorge became a classic more for its adventuring than action

I can highly recommend Broforge to all those budding detectives out there who are in search of a quarty product at an awesome price





### REVIEW released awas pleasantly surprised to

mapped animal ons. The objectives and has a few

Crusader has





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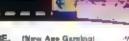
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#### Full Hardware Acceleration For OpenGL

Openist, developed by Silicon Graphics Inc." is the most widely adopted 30 graphics. language in the professional industry. It is used extensively by designers and modelets. for everything from Hollywood animation hims to automobile design. New OpenGL is avariable on Windows 95 and Windows NT 40 and it will be an important standard. Graphics Blaster Exstreme takes you ahead with dedicated hardware acceleration for OpenGL under both Windows 95 and Windows NT 48

Applications that benefit from OpenGL exceleration include:

10 Por MAX - Lore A retra



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verses the Diesthorage and Sound Blade we TQ — edis looms valo be wilk and is lar lifter and in the lifter stand in later and schooling restaurability september redesigns and the smooth? (I

## VAPRIMARE BYFE

ver since the announcement from 3Db. that they are in the fina stages of developing the Voodoo 2 chipsel 4 has been a race between manufacturers to get their cards out first. Up steps Creative Labs and blowtheir compelitors away. On the 20th of February Creative Started shipping their 3D Blaster Voodoo2 with 12 MB of RAM. released an incredible three weeks before anyone else. With most of the paming developers moving to the 3Dfx platform II won't be long before everyone will need a Vondoo or Voodoo 2 graphics accelerator. Currently the only Voodoo 2 board available in South Africa is Creative Labs 3D Blaster Voodoo 2. The card is Plug & Play so instanation is a snap plug it in, connect all the cables. Install the drivers and your

ready to rumble

Creative Labs has been kind enough to supply us with a 6 MB Voodgo 2 reference board for testing. and must admit that I am impressed. Graphic accelerators based on the Voodoo 2 chipset take up one PCI slot and is a add-on card, meaning that it only accelerates 3D and does not provide any 2D capabilities, you will still need your 2D display card to run your PC. Using a pass-thru VGA cable you connect the Voodoo 2 card to your 2D-display card. The monitor is then connected to the Voodoo 2 card so no worries about swapping cables all the time. Being purely an accelerator made for gaming the Vondoo 2 chipset offer excellent visual quality while at the same time giving you amazingly fast frame rates, twice the FPS of the first generation Voodoo on most games.

Creative Labs have announced BMB and 12MB version of their graphic accelerators based on the Voodoo 2 chipsel. The 8MB version will have a 4 MB frame buffer with two 2MB texture memory chips, one for each texture processors, and the 12MB version will have a 4MB frame buffer with two 4MB memory chips. A 4 MB frame buffer enables gamers to run their favourite 3Dfx games in resolutions of up to 800x600 (with a Z-buffer) and up to 1024x768 (without a Z-buffer) Having no Z-Buffer means some praphical artifacts will show up while



#### Voodoo 2 is set to revolutionize the gaming industry.

playing a game, not that serious it speed is a higher priority than beauty. The enfortunate news about Vondoo is that its speed depends on what processor you have, to take any real

advantage from a Voodoo 2 based card you need at least a Pentium 166 Mhz. This is

not to say that you can't run it with a lower Pentium processor, just that you won't see any major speed ncreases in games. The good news is that Voodoo 2 based cards haven't peaked yet, there is currently no processor available that makes the card run at its full potential. Keep this in mind if you're in the market for a Vondoo 2 card.

The leature of Voodoo 2 most people are raving about is SU (Single Line Interleave) With Voodgo 2 you can plug in two cards to get twice the performance. This works by having one card drawing even numbered tines on the display while the other does uneven numbered lines. In this configuration you have a total frame buffer of BMB, guess what this means you can get the 1024x768 resolution

with a Z-Buffer and still have high frame rates. Keep in mind that both cards have to be identical, no mixing of 8MB and 12 MB versions and both have to be of the same. brand, if this is your style, you will be pleased to know most manafacturers will have a special deal on two cards. The cards can be a bit pricey with an estimated retail price of R1999 00 each. but considering all the benefits, a wise . inves,ment

Voodoo 2 is set to revolutionize the gaming Industry the same way Voodoo did Now developers can

soend more time on game content and less time on tweaking the code for speed. I suspect in the future developers will move to a purely hardware accelerated solution and drop software rendering completely. Voodoo has become the developer's accelerator of choice, offering a host of advanced features even its competitors have found hard to

The first time I saw Qualic 2 running at on a Voodoo 2 card my jaw dropped to the floor and almost never returned. I couldn't believe the difference the extra frames a second made. The game iself runs much faster and more smoothly. The Voodoo 2 showed no signs of a periodic statter evident with my first generation Voodoo card as II loaded lextures. Be certain that I will be one of the first in line for a Voodoo 2 card and If my budget allows I might even get two. Thinking of Quake 2 running at 1024x768 with a Z-Buffer at 75 FPS

Wizmack 402754 Final Reality 3.31 3D Reality Marks Quake 2 Timedemo (Un-Tweaked) 50 frames/sec Quake 2 Timedemo (Tweaked) B1 frames/sec

### NTERM THE NAME



landards are being set at a rapid rate in the 3D Acceleration market and the race is on to get the biggest slice of the rake. Accelerated cards were unobtainable with us only reading about the extraordinary capabilities that these cards are able of performing. Fortunately we now have a group of local suppliers distributing the 30th trend of cards. One of which Is Multimedia Walehouse who have seculed the Canopus Pule 3D which supports the 3Dfx Yoodoo 1 brand of chipsets.

The normal Vondoo 1 30fx card comes standard with 2 Meg Texture and 2 Meg frame buffer memory with the Canopus coming standard with 4 Meg texture memory and 2 Meg. frame buffer. This has extra benefits such as better visual quality and speedler frame rates that are a definitely noticeable

The card was a breeze to install with excellent support on the Canopus site helping with driver availability Diffing Into an available PCI slot and then linking to your current VGA adapter via a pass-through cable can be construed as an easy installation.

Drivers are supplied but I recommend that you download the current drivers from the Caronus site as they natch up certain. problem areas and utilize the card to its full capability. They are easily installed and there were no problems with WIN 95. recognizing the card. The drivers self extract and are installed directly as long as you follow the instruction

The Pure 3D has some interesting addition to the board one of which being the TV output connection for gamers with smaller monitors wishing to play on their larger TV screens. Cables are supplied for S-Video, Composite TV and sound card connections. The TV output impressed me but I recommend using your monitor if you have a 17th and up.

The card performs admirably with impressive results coming from the 3D tests run. With the extra memory available on the Pure 3D you are able to load higher quality textures divine excellent visuals. You are able to overclock the Pure 3D by upping it to 60MHz but the developers do not recommend you

do this for heat reasons. I recommend you have ample chassis cooling before you attempt the overclocking and remember the warranty is void if you do so

the only real disappointment comes from the software bundle that is missing from the package. Overseas products always ship with games bundled with the card I can only sumise that the changes were made for affordability reasons but then these cards don't come cheap and will set you back & 1399 00 if not more

I can say from expettence that the Canopus Pure 3D is my Voodoo 1 card of choice and I recommend II because of its performance and software support



#### SMITH'S FI STEERING WHEEL

ave you ever played your favourite racing sim and been frustrated by the control mechanism. That elusive few seconds needed for qualifying seems impossible to breach. That joystick and keyboard gets a pounding and lets face II they just don't give you the stability that's needed. With the

advent of the steering wheel for the PC there are many models oving for the number one thie, one of which being the Smith's F1 Steering Wheel.

The device is fastened to a secure tabletop with a 4p whereby the clamps can securely tighten. I have had instances where the device just cannot secure which results in movement and eventual collapse. I was happy to see that the Smith's stayed lightened and has rubber bushes that grip the table to add extra resistance to movement.

The steering column is reliant on the height of the table and cannot be adjusted to suite different heights and builds. It was not much of a train smash as my table is the correct height but my posture had to be awkwardly positioned because the steering wheel stands in an upright position.

You are able to lay the pedals at the base of the table. without any hassies, as the cable that connects the steering column and the pedals is ample in length. The devices connect via a standard telephone connector, which extends to the gameport. I must say the hardware was easy to install and without fault even though the manuals supplied only give basic

The software supplied, ohive, what software. No software was supplied but a detailed breakdown of how to utilize the product with all the major racing games was included in the manual. The 5mith's was detected by all the games I tested II on and you can use the Alicrosoft drivers in the Controller Setup. Calibrating the Smith's is uncomplicated as long as you follow the Win 95 instructions

Smith's have opted for a rigid metal base and highcompound plastic for the steering wheel. This is not the most comfortable of grips especially when I hold tightly due to the tension exerted from the longer races. I was impressed with the pedals that responded perfectly because I was able to keep my leet in one position. This was due to the rubber ridges that are

positioned at the base of your feet but I recommend that you keep your shoes on if playing for long. periods of time to stop bilstering.

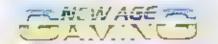
The steering wheel was responsive but for one irritating problem of the game pulling left when the steering wheel was straight. These was nothing I could do to rectify this problem even after calibrating a few times and

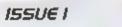
trying different racing sims II still persisted, I can only put this down to the

age and the extensive battering that these demounits go through, nevertheless an imitating

I can honestly say that I Improved my times considerably and even yied for the overall winner of the championship only missing out narrowly If you have the extra cash and are a racing fan this is a definite buy considering the pitce











#### General Strategies

Welcome to Multiplayer Strategies for Total Approximation 101. Here are a couple of strategies and cheats for you It Ity out

Cel to know your units. I know this may he art area los task when here are so. many an is, but once you ge to know your units you will be better able to assess units strong and weak points

Team to build Structures with more than one Construction unit at a time this shortens the band time of stractures Addit smally you can use you commander to help in building structures, he is considerably faster. than Construction units. When doing this always keep your eye on the energy level make sure your not using more energy than you are currently produsing. A couple of Construction units busy on one building can drate cuite a bit of energy and when your energy reaches 0 II was just prolong the building time instead of Shortening 4

Protect your resources! Whereve you build a metal extractor place a Light Laser Tower and a Missile Towet have found that a lot of players never protect their resources especially in Single

player mode

Tips, Cheats and Tactics

Gel to know a the keyboard commands, it can make your response to a treat that much faster. Players that

> know how to use the keyboard and mouse. toge her usually built a lot las er hen. someone ast using the mause

Try and capture everything you can Capturing a unit + building can be a bit I me consuming but considering how long it will take for

you to build its equivalent its fast. This way you can have extra units and not pay the metal and energy required for It Remainbe that your Commander can walk in water as well, while to the water many aver him under a ship-

that has no underwater defenses. ke depth charges and stall edaturing it. If there are no submattnes in the area you should capture if without encountering any

Don't bunch all you units together especially not reside your base, by doing so you give the computer or an exponent a chance to totally wipe out a of them with one Nuclea, missile of heavy art livry attack. This also makes I diff cult for other units to manauve-

#### Muttiplayer Strategies

and deuteases their effectiveness.

One of the most useful units (and mostly overlooked) is the Commander Packing a D-Gun and a closione device makes your Commander an excellent First strike

Click on Total Annihilation's Single:

Player Icon. When the Single Player

Game раде авроит туре DRDEATH 🛝

not case something). This will cause the Gavedog Entertainment home to appear between the Load Game and Previous

Menu Icons on the right side of the

screen. Clicking on the hone will take

screen where they can play any Total

Annihilation mission, even if they have

not earned their way to that level yet:

This can be toggled off by re-entering

the code. It is permanent so that your

only have to enter it once (when you

load TA again it will remember that you

used this code and automatically show

players to a special Play Any Game

Wedpun Remember to put Hold-Hire on. cloak the communder and speak into the enemy base Once there do a guick uncloak and pop a larget with voor DiGun, it will destroy the target and do damage to any nearby units as well. As soon as you have fired make sure to cloak again as OF this as

Committee of the last for making a hole

In your opponents defense the only nown side to this is the immense energy required for such a bold factic



Combined with the ARM's cloakable reactor you don't even have to worry about disruption of power for the doalang device. Remember this is only

> recommended in dames with continue after commander dies set to on-

Early on the name find your opponents base using a scout plane or whatever, As NOON AS YES THE afford to send a couple of units his WAY CHOT DOOR CORE though) and start creating a perimeter around his hase. sending more units collection as they are produced When NUMBER OF POSSESSION

remember to take a

mobile radar lanimer along to cloak your units from his radar. The objective here is to block him off from the rest of the map not putting your units within his detense perimeter so the can be slaughtered, by doing so you cut him off from a lot of resources in the map. While doing this remember to claim all the resources. your blocking him off from, and also build a good base delense - just in case he brakes through your permeter

Since many maps have very leve metal paiches a good way to increase



metal production is to build metal makers. Although this sounds year easy it is a hard objective to achieve Metal makers only produce 1 metal and require 60 energy I usually buod 6 metal makers for every lusion. Rear for 1 have

If you can get 18 of these babies ab you don't have to work too much about your opponent wiping out all VOID metal extractors. Of course fidoes require a MUGE amount of energy and you will need mo u Reactor's to power something like a Big Retha of Annibitation

Band anti-nuclear missiles early on and make sure they cover your where

Sel a couple of Khot's or British is to panol the map, you don't want your opponent to sneak a Big Brotha unto the map while your not watching

Make a cease fire for the list couple of run ites of a game 1. suggest 10-15 minutes. This gives players some time to establish a little delense, preventing tank rushes and it also prevents Commander ability flons making the game generally more interesting and fun for everyoni

## Playstation Cheats

Nuclear Strike

Laurals Enter the following codes at the password screen Tevel Iwo Ct. II ROATS Level Thige COUNTROWN Tevel Three B: PLL TONITIM Level Four Pusan Level Tive: Aimageddon Secret Level: Lightning

#### The 5 Oddeser

evet theat

nter this code at the main oppons screen while laying the word options highlighted. Hold R1 and press Down, Right Jeff Right, Square Circle Square, Mangle, Circle, Square, Right Test Mache Cheat

Enter this coucid, the main options Hold R1 and press up. Left, Right Square Colle-Irkingle Square, Right, Left, Up, Right.

#### Rush do Blade

Here is how to get the second ending for the characters

first run all the way to the construction area near the well. Then cripple your apponent and without killing him jump into the well. Next without getting his and stiff using "Bushido" full all your opponents. You will then, depending on the character you're using face a different boss and see the characters alternate ending.

#### Skullmonkeys

time in the first

Press pause then type L1. Thangle, D-pad. loso, D-pac off, then O, then select then quare, then D-pad right

dose the game and press R2. Citcle, Circle. Down, Left, Cittle Right, Down to get a free

ideo Clip Passwords

- O, LL X, Triangle Square X, X, X, LL RT
- O. R1 Square, Triangle 11
- X. R2. Square, X.
- Square R1 Square X, X, V, O. O.
- X, Inangle X, X, R1 Square O, X, LL X

## PC Cheats

#### the's Oodyser

At the menu screen, hold down the Shift button and press the following combinations. watch am cut scene

#### tale of Empires

to activate these codes, go to Chai mode (Emer) and then type in the following codes in all caps to everyone (including you) dies YOU RESIDE

reveals the entire map give yourself 1 000 food give yourself 1,000 gold I'M OUT give voorself 1 000 wood RRY give yourself 1 000 stone contitui animals

receive trooper with a nuke (Math. catapults shoot assorted items NEW CORE THAT BOY PRO n enable cheat codes, typi-YOMIT during space Hight heat Code Result Clif C turns some record off that enables of isables invincible mode Cirl-112 estions target GOODIARGEL hanges cockpit targeting mode to irret targeling mode MORFTUNES labies Tadio M.SWANTSMORESHIPS fly enemia hips during simulated missions

Mistines of the 5ah During the game, press the Tikey to enter Talk. node and activate the following cheats

receive all corce powers. escent all weapons inventory is full skip (ever disable At enable At Force level increases lly mode invulnerability mode on invulnerability mode off an el mana

full map revealed enable slow motion disable slow motion. feleport to given coordinates





## MULTIPLAYER MAYHEM

inally Quake 2 has arrived to keep us up until the wee hours of the moming. Nothing could lear me away from fragging Darkskies into oblivion. Except to write this article of

ID Software have again triumphed in this ever increasing demand for multiplayer mayhem. Us South Africans are becoming more and more addicted to fale nights and pizzas purely because of the undying need to splat something or someone against the nearest wall. Nevertheless we endure hours of fun and excitement second only to driving down the M1. North on the opposite side of the road trying to find the first BMW to wipe out.

Now to our surprise (ye right Ed) we crave for Quake 2 even more than the original because ID Software has improved upon the network ability and balancing of weapons within the dame, as well as thrown in 3Dfx to create havor with our bank balances. We never seem to stop upgrading do

This is one of the downfall's

created by the demand for more power in the multiplayer arena, with our Internet Cafe's

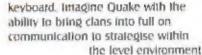
battling with the costly upgrades leaving us little or no place to join in a frag lest. The clan's such as Damage and Rayden seem to spend weekends

at arranged venue's leaving the insignificant people with no place to go socialize with a game of Quake 2. By the way If you would like to join a Ouake Clan check out www.quake2.co.za/clans.htm for a full

listing of clans and members. If you think you any good

I'm sure they will indulge you in a little constructive surgery.

Now where does Quake do from here? Graphically there will always be improvements but what about the improvements in the multiplayerplayability? Surely we are reaching the stage of direct communication



against opposing clans. This will close the gap between strategy games and shootem-ups in a big way, as well as increase the amount of campers out there waiting for orders from clan leaders to ambush parties roaming around. ultimate addition would be the

gracess over the internet but that seems guite a long way away for us poor South Africans due to the increasing demand for bandwidth with our ISP's. I must

communication

admit they are trying to improve on this matter now that the Telkom

morapoly has been somewhat

sorted out by increasing international bandwidth. Now what us gamer's would like to see is an increase in local ocering and more gaming servers. Yes guys you never can please us gamer's. With the rumor of TEN being interested in South Africa as part of an international spread of the gaming franchise, the South African gamer's are going to be demanding bandwidth like never before.

finally to round off this first Multiplayer Mayhem section I would ask all you Quakers and multiplayers junkles to support the Creative Camival Quake Competition not only for the prizes but because all the proceeds go to Avril Elizabeth Home. A worthy charity that can benefit from something that we enjoy. The New Age gang will be there so check it out.

If you have any comments or requests please e-mail me at multimahem@nap.co.za.

> Until then FRAG EM!

#### Can communication be the answer to ID Software's next multiplayer project?

with team mates to enhance the

strategies and intimidation of teams

and the opposition. I think the overseas market is ready for this addition to gaming with South Africa's

> happening all the time.

already under way of multiplayer games taking advantage of social interaction via communication through microphones. One of which is Fire Team being developed by Multitude (multiplayerattitude) breaking the state communication process of hotkeys and



Utilising voice communication in multiplayer games of Quake will enhance the strategy in shoot-em-ups.



#### ISSUE I

### **MULTIMEDIA FOR YOUR SENSES**

## **Editors'** Choice

#### **3DFX Graphics Accelerator Card**

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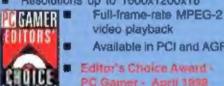
- Editor's Choice Nov 1997 PC Format (SA) - 88%. Editor's Card of Choice -



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- video płayback Available in PCI and AGP
- Editor's Chaice Award PC Gamer - April 1998

### X36F Control Stick

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- CGAMER Editor's Choice Award Pt. Gamer (USA) - Dec 97
  - 4½ stars Computer Gaming World (USA) - Jan 98



#### X36 Combo

Joyatick and Throttle Flight Controller Stick, throttle, rudder, 2 rolary controls, 14 digital inputs, 2 eight way hat switches, 1 four way hel switch, serial mouse control (4th hat), throttle mode and pinke status indicators.

- Editor's Choice Award PC GAM 2 PC Gamer - Oct 1997
- CG Choice Award 41/2 stars - Computer Gaming World (USA) Oct 1997



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Internet Cafe's have become more and more popular over the last few years with the Internet booming Throughout the country. What (

cannot understand is the use of the word Internet when the Venues are used mostly for multiplayer games. One such venue happens to have Internet in their name but believe you me the games dominate. Cybernation Games and Internet Cafe at the Randburg Waterfront has built up a reputation of being Johannesburg's

Cybernation was opened in May 95

with a vision of creating a cyber and

been set out with games taking a

classics such as Full Throttle and X-Wing. The shop is one of the largest Internet Cafe's in S.A.

covering more than 250sqm which includes a large bat. toilets, software (new & second

hand), accessories and 12 gaming machines all with

The Internet is provided by

Uunet lafrica via a 64Kb Diginet

tine that is continuously on with no dial ups needed. The speeds

considering that there were five

Cybernation caters for all modes

of Internet use from IRC to

downloads. They also have a

which is available on request.

designed for quick meals and

plenty of JAVA. The prices are

reasonable and I recommend

the chicken burger for getting

The menu is typically

colour and B&W printing service

other people all accessing the

I received were average for

shops of this size and

not at the same time.

Internel access.

prominant stand in the mural design. The walls are painted with pictures of

gaming meeting place. The decor has



RANDBURG WRITERFRONT (Johannesburg)

rid of those hunger pains.

The machines are the most disapppointing part of the shop with 12 Pentium 120's not standing up to

todays high end games tuckily for now most of the more popular network games run on lower end machines and Cybernation has one of the largest selections of games available. A close source has revealed plans to me about expanding Cybernation into an even more dynamic venue with P2's being available. I hope to see these plans becoming a reality as up to date Network Gaming

Centre's are sourly lacking

I was happy to see the list of games including older releases such as doom 1 & 2 as well as the more current titles such as Dark Reign and Ages of Empire Even though the machines battle slightly especially in WIN 95, the 10

Base/T network strolled along nicely. Games such as Quake were set up efficiently and without trouble giving us more time to frag made

If you have multiplayer gaming and internel in mind then check out the specials available during the week days that allow patrons to play for R 5.00 per half hour. A difficult price to beat in these parts of town and give good value for money. Specials are also available to Damelin and AAA students all receiving 50% discounts except on Fridays and the weekend.

Cybernation also closes later than usual and gives the insomntacs a place to hybernate during the early hours of the moming. I was impressed with the service and unhappy with getting my ass kicked by some of the Damage Clan boys who frequent the place: Nonetheless an enjoyable evening filled with fun and all this without breaking the bank. For all you 'weenle' and experienced gamers this is the ultimate venue for trying out your



Machines

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# He end

Well that's it for our first issue of New Age Gaming. We just pulled a 24 hour work shift and everyone is pretty tired. so best I keep this short, it's been 2 years since the idea spawned into our minds and 6 months of hard work pulling this concept together and New Age Gaming was one of the lucky few that got CNA's permission to be intheir stores (of course a lot of begging and pleading went into this - onlykidding). We would like to thank all the local distributors for their support In supplying us games & hardware for review and hope to build a lasting relationship with you all. We are currently looking for reviewers, if you are an aspiring writer and gamer send us a review on a game and if we like It we'll contact you to discuss future: prospects (no plagiarizing other articles please). Send your mock review to I Wanna Be A Reviewer, P.O. Box 2749, Alberton, 1449, Eastly if you are reading this Thank You!! for your support in buying our magazine, we hope you find it full of useful information and enjoy it as much as we have enjoyed putting it together.

OK. Coming next month we have F15 from Janes, Tex Murphy: Overseer (woohoo a DVD title), BattleZone a first person strategy game (like Quake combined with Command & Conquer): uhhhmmmm...... OH DAMN! Almost forgot the most important one of all STARCRAFT, year it just went gold so we should have copy within a few days.

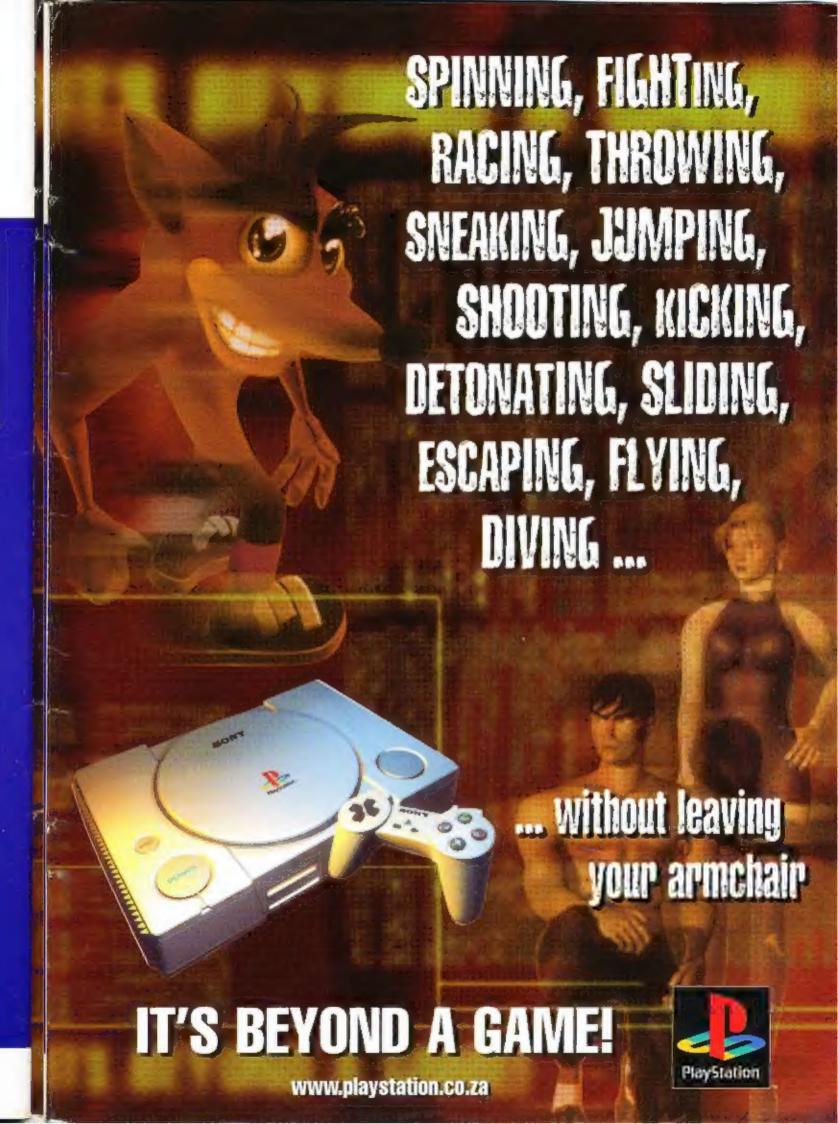
Till next month, keep fraggin, kickin butt, strategizing, sportsizing and playing games,

Ok where's my

APRIL 98







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